

THE
Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LVII.

3rd January to 29th June.

1903.

HONGKONG:

PRINTED AT THE "DAILY PRESS" OFFICE, 14, DES VŒUX ROAD, CENTRAL.

LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

INDEX.

3rd January to 29th June, 1903.

LEADING ARTICLES:—		LEADING ARTICLES, Continued:—		LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, Continued:—	
	PAGE		PAGE		PAGE
Admiralty Dock	222, 271	Kang Yu-wei	386	Flogging, Punishment of,	170
American Trade with China	224	Kwangsi Famine	288, 321	Fugitive Criminals,	170
Anglo-French relations	340	Labour Supply	229	Land Settlement in New Territory	290
Anglo-German relations	96, 115, 189	Lekin, Preparing to Abolish	338	Merchant Shipping Ordinance,	170
Appointments, Acting Legal	288	Mail Contracts	224, 342, 422	New Members	290
Athletics in Education	115	Malaria and Mosquitoes	289	Public Health and Buildings Bill,	132
Bagdad Railway	437	Manchuria, 19, 114, 256, 270, 304, 320, 400, 420	223	Stowaways Bill	291, 455
Bridge across Harbour, Proposed	385	Manchuria, Gold in	223	Water Accounts Clerk,	455
Britain and the Eastern Question	115	Medical Men on Steamers	453	Water Supply Augmentation,	290
Cable Rates	402	Medical Report for 1902	150	Waterworks at Tai-po,	454
Camphor Production in China	223	Missionary Question	97	SANITARY BOARD:—	
Canton, Piracy near	20	Naval Base, New English	206	Applications	439
Canton, Trouble feared at	84, 96, 98	Naval Estimates	205	Assistant Secretary	403
Chamberlain's Scheme	453	Naval Yard Extension	222, 271	Backyards to Houses	293, 439
Chili, Receipt Stamps for	183	Navy League	362, 401	Branch Hospitals, Proposed,	404
China and the Indemnity	62	Pacific Ocean and the United States	452	Bridges in Backyards of Houses,	133
China, Humiliated	4	Passenger Communication along Coast	238	Buildings Bill, New	292
China, Railways in	270, 341, 436	Peak Scavenging	340	Cattle Crematorium	241
China's Situation	114, 239, 256, 272	Peking a Treaty Port	305, 332	Chinese Cemetery	273
China Teas	131, 362	Philippines	289	Chinese Houses	241
Chinese and Foreigners	131	Piracy in Canton Neighbourhood	20	Chinese Theatres	402
Chinese and H.E. the Governor	254, 272	Plague	115, 168, 360, 420, 453	Concreting of Basements	64
Chinese Immigration	63, 151, 189, 205, 239, 321, 400, 452	Plague Experiment in the Punjab	454	Disinfection,	240, 405
Coastwise Passenger Communication	238	Plague, Infectivity of	341	Disinfecting Ships,	402
Collapses of Hongkong Buildings	44	Plague Precautions	20, 320	Dissolution of Old Board,	170
Commercial Treaty	223	Police, Native, and Rowdies	132	Domestic Cleanliness,	405
Commercialism in Modern Life	64	Port Hamilton	151	Dumping Rubbish at the Peak,	323
Consols, British	270	Quarantine against Hongkong	20	Elections, Sanitary Board,	226
Consuls and Commerce	306	Railway Fares in China	341	Epidemics, Prevention of,	241
Corean Question	43, 188	Railway Projects in China	270, 436	Exemption, Application for,	374
Corea's Future	437	Rowdies and the Native Police	132	Flushing of Drains,	323, 403, 439
Crime, Detection of	234	Russia and Central Asia	169	Fumigating Pawnshops,	278
Criminal Statistics of Hongkong	238	Russia and Corea	43	Healthy Village, A,	293
Currency Question	18, 42, 64, 84, 97, 130, 168, 342, 361, 384, 400, 422	Russia and Far East	169	Houses, Measurement of	405
Customs Returns: January-March	436	Russia and Germany	62	Impure Well	405
"Dumping" Plague Corpses	168, 420	Russia and Japan	305, 452	Inefficient Limewash	438
"Empire Day"	362	Sanitary Board, New	205	Infectious Disease at Shanghai	403
Europe, Peace of	3	Scavenging of the Peak	340	Kitchen floors	323
European Populations in China	204	Shanghai and its Government	64	Limewashing Returns	374, 405, 429
Famine in Kwangsi	288, 321	Siam and France	340	Malaria at Morrison Hill	133, 273
Foreigners and Chinese	131	Siberian Railway	204	Meetings of Property Owners, Recent	373, 439
France and Siam	340	Spy Mania	271	Mosquito Breeding Places	292
Free Trade	421, 453	Storm Warnings	271	Mysterious Cattle Disease, A,	438
Gage Street Murder	362	Straits Currency	400, 422	Nullahs for Private Purposes	21
(S.) George's Day	290	Taxpayer's Burden, British	305	Opium-divan Floors	322
Germany and Russia	62	Tea Trade, China	131, 362	Osborne, Departure of Mr.	240
Gold in Manchuria	223	Telegraph Code, New	336	Plague and Chinese Theatres	322
Governor and the Chinese	254, 272	Tibet	437	Plague and Dumping	403
Harbour, Proposed Bridge across	385	Trade in the Interior	239	Plague at Amoy	403
Hongkong Building Collapses	44	Treaty, New	223	Plague at Formosa,	438
Hongkong Criminal Statistics	238	Tung Ku-hsiang's Movements	20, 42	Plague at Tsat-Tsz-Mui	405
Hongkong, Quarantine against	20	Undesirables in Hongkong	84	Plague Contacts, Detention of	439
Hongkong, Undesirables in	84	United States and the Pacific Ocean	452	Plague in Hongkong	4, 445
Immigration, Chinese 63, 151, 189, 205, 239, 321, 400, 452		Unrest in China	239, 272	Plague-Infected Fowls	439
Indemnity, China and the	62, 169	War, Possibility of	305	Plague-Infected Houses	322
Industrial Conditions in England and America	401	Wei-hai-wei	131, 150	Precautionary Measures	438
Interior, Trade in the	239	Yangtze Intrigue	19, 96	Property, Resumption of	373
International Institute, Proposed	321	Year's Record	2	Public Health Ordinance Enforcement	438
Japan and Russia	305, 452	Yung Lu's Death	283	Rat Returns	405, 439
Japanese Commercial Morality	152	Yunnan Railway Question	4	Rats, How to Get Rid of	278, 405
		Yunnan Rebellion	384, 402	Rats and Plague	98
		LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—		"Rinderpest,"	374
		Crown Agents System	454	Rubbish, Removal of	373
		Finance Committee	133, 170, 291, 455	Saiyingpoon Market	273

	PAGE
SANITARY BOARD, Continued:—	
Scavenging Hill District	374, 405, 439
Shankiwan Paintworks	292
Surveyor's Report	98, 322
Theatres, Chinese, and Plague	322
Theatres, Closing of	374
Theatrical Performances	278
Water Supply	405
Well, Reopening of a	374
Well at Tung Wa Hospital	278
White-lead Dangers	241

SUPREME COURT:—	
Absconding Criminal,	228
Armed Robberies,	73, 90, 366, 368
Arson Charges,	462
Assault and Robbery,	462
Bankruptcy Cases, 106, 178, 193, 229, 296, 407	
Brewer & Co. v. P. & A. s. s. Co.,	207
Bribery Charge against Government Clerk,	443
Burglary,	308
Cheung Sam Toy v. Lauts, Wegener & Co.,	179
Chin Fat Tsun v. Yan Sui Chi,	105, 140
Chu I cung v. s. s. Hoi-ho	72
Collapses of Houses Trial,	260
Compradore, Charges against a,	296
Criminal Assault,	443
Dairy Farm Embezzlements, The,	160
Dinshaw Sorabjee v. H. Ruttonjee	142
Diocesan School Burglary	160, 178
Eclair s. s. v. Cargo-junk No. 711	261, 274
Eclair s. s. v. s. s. Hoi-kiang	72
Exposing a Child	443
Forged Order, Uttering A,	461, 462
Forgery Cases	461
Forging a Chop	368
Gage Street Murder Trial	342
Gomes v. Gomes	462
Hang Fung Kung Sze v. Tang Kow	368
Highway Robbery, Alleged	431, 442
Ho Chu Ting v. The Wing Shing	308
Ho Fung Hang v. Chan Kit San	178, 191, 229, 242
Ho Wong v. Leung Shi	141, 191, 229
Land Court Appeal	442
Li Wei v. Yuen Hang Kin	192, 274
Lo Kam Loy v. Dock Co.,	192
Macleod v. Smith	309, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331
Man Loong v. China & Manila S. S. Co., Ltd.	367
Manslaughter,	442
Miniature Zafro Case, A,	228, 303
Money-Lending Indians,	312
Morgan v. Ho Fu,	105
Moses v. Chin Wa,	51
Pan Leung v. Pan Kwok Chin,	390, 417
Partnership Case, A,	386
Perjury, Charge of,	142, 160
Quarry, Lay Fatal Riot,	443
Returning from Banishment,	261
Skott & Co. v. Wong Fat Hing	230, 241, 295
Tam Long Chuen v. Von der Ohe	142
Tysing Shop v. Lauts, Wegener & Co.,	296
Unclaimed Garlic,	178
Wong Kam v. S. S. Hansa	309, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331
Zafro Mystery	

PUBLIC COMPANIES:—	
Campbell, Moore & Co., Ltd.	242
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	8, 276, 430
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	159, 176
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	377, 412
China and Manila s. s. Co., Ltd.	297, 311
China Mutual Insurance Co., Ltd.	431
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Co., Ltd.	53, 71
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.	177, 209
Dock Co., Ltd., Hongkong & Whampoa	119, 156
Fenwick & Co., Ltd., Geo.,	176, 193
Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., Hongkong	139, 176
Green Island Cement Co., Ltd.	211, 230
Hongkong, Canton and Macao S. S. Co., Limited	103, 118, 159
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.	462
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	139, 176
Hongkong Hotel Co., Ltd.	194, 210
Hongkong Ice Co., Ltd.	13
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited	176, 193
Hongkong Land Investment Co., Ltd.	71, 88
Hongkong Land Reclamation Co., Ltd.	80
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Co., Ltd.	90, 119
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	101, 138
Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.	119, 156
Humphreys Estate & Finance Co.,	103, 118, 230
Ice Co., Ltd., Hongkong	103
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd.	463
Kowloon Land & Building Co., Ltd.	90, 103
Land Investment Co., Hongkong	71, 88
Land Reclamation Co., Ltd., Hongkong	80
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.	177, 209
Manila Investment Co., Ltd.	413
National Bank of China, Ltd.	54, 71

PUBLIC COMPANIES, Continued:—	
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.	104, 138
Rope Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Hongkong	90, 119
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.	139
Tramways (High Level) Co., Ltd.	8
Watkins, Limited,	231, 242
Watson, A. S., & Co., Ltd.	378
West Point Building Co., Ltd.	72, 89

PORTS, ETC.:—	
Amoy	155, 232, 276, 298
Canton	28, 88, 101, 136, 155, 174, 193, 246
... ..	276, 298, 350, 376, 392, 409, 428, 441, 459
Chefoo	70
Corea	29, 102, 313, 429
Foochow	7, 155
Formosa	137
Hoihow	7
Japan	60, 102, 117
Macao	6, 68, 88, 136
Manchuria	70
Newchwang	155
Nganking	70
Northern Notes	7, 88, 102, 429
Pakhoi	29, 68, 136, 261, 334, 351, 428
Peking	52, 441
Swatow	6, 29, 68, 101, 117, 174, 193, 261
Tibet	429, 441, 459
Tientsin	102

CORRESPONDENCE:—	
Admiralty Dock Question	262
Alleged International Embroglio at Macao	280
Arresting a Chinese Beggar	334
Bone, Departure of Mr. C.	459
Brokers' Commissions	193
Building Nuisances, the	53
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Co., Ltd.,	263, 278, 280
Chinese, The, and H. E. the Governor,	455
Chinese Labour for the Rand,	352, 877
Chinese Theatres, Closing of,	877
Chinese Theatres and Plague Infection,	137, 156, 174, 212
Cloud on the Horizon, The,	30
Collapses of Houses,	175
Coolies and the Public Gardens,	137
Correction, A,	36, 50, 156, 244, 277
Currency Question,	364
Currency, The Straits,	430
Gas in Hongkong,	413
Gomes v. Gomes,	378
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock	441
Junk Rights and Hongkong Law	461
Kowloon Roads: A Warning	413
Macao Letter Delivery	297
Miss Blake's Wedding	54
Mosquitoes' Breeding-Places	245
National Bank of China, Ltd.,	351
Navy League Catechism	245, 262
Peak Scavenging	378, 430, 441
Philanthropy Unlimited	377
Plague, The	459, 461
Plague Considerations	175
Plague and the Use of Salt	812
Post Office, The	378
Pro Bono Publico	429
Property Owners, Meeting of,	156
Questions at the Sanitary Board, Mr. Pollock's	262
Racing in Hongkong	262
Results of Mistaken Identity	214, 245, 262
Reported European Case of Plague	312
Robberies in the Colony	312
Russia and Manchuria	7
Sanitary Board, The	334
Second Street House Collapse	262
Steamship Service, Canton and Macao	391
Street Beggars, The Abomination of	334
Theatres, The Chinese	297
Travelling Inconveniences in Kowloon	459, 460, 481
Triad Society, The	430
Unconquered Scotland	377
V.R.C., The	214
Wise, Mr. Justice	
Wounding of a Tide-waiter at Macao	

SPORTS:—	
Artillery Sports	249
Athletics at Amoy	444
Chess Club, Hongkong	35, 108
Cricket,	4, 33, 55, 76, 91, 107, 124, 144, 161, 179, 195, 215, 233, 248, 265, 282
Cricket Average	444
Football 10, 34, 56, 77, 91, 108, 125, 145,	161, 180, 196, 215, 232, 247
Golf Championship	378
Golf Club, Royal Hongkong 35, 57, 182,	196, 432, 249, 265, 282
Hockey,	34, 162
Hongkong Jockey Club Race Meeting, 120, 143	135, 136
Hongkong Rifle Association,	120, 143, 182
Jockey Club Race Meeting, Hongkong,	265, 282
Lawn Tennis,	125, 136, 281
Rifle Association, Hongkong,	

SPORTS, Continued:—	
Rifle Association, Ladies'	196
Rifle Shooting,	11, 108, 182
Rowing Races at Boat Club,	314
Rowing Races at V.R.C.,	238
Polo	314
Polo Club Gymkhana	299
School Sports	249
Sports at Taikoo	32
Victoria Recreation Club	233
Yacht Club, Royal Hongkong, 35, 56, 77, 92,	125, 145, 162, 181, 214, 249, 265, 334

REVIEWS:—	
East of Asia	160
Formosa The Island of, Past and Present	314
Land of the Bowers, the	415
Macao, Historic	281
Manual of Chinese Quotations, A,	463
Shensi, Through Hidden	74
Silver Standard and Straits Currency Question	194
Two on their Travels	106
Union Church History of	240
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	22, 44, 98, 148-149
(supplement), 171, 257, 323 (supplement)	

MISCELLANEOUS:—	
Accident, to Insp. O'Donnelly,	275
A. D. C. at Canton,	174
A. D. C. in His Excellency the Governor,	100
Admiralty Dock Removal Question,	224, 258
Affairs in Japan,	394
Alacrity Cork Club,	191
Alexander MacNeil, Wreck of	89
Alice Memorial & Nethersole Hospitals,	206
American Misconduct in the Philippines,	392
Anderson, Lecture by Captain,	172
Anti-Footbinding Movement,	281
Anti-Foreign Attitude in China,	354
Anti-Foreign Disturbance on North River,	333
Argonaut, Complaint from the	354
Armed Robberies,	390
Army Estimates for Far East,	300
Arson, Alleged,	358
Arson Trial at Police Court,	312
Assaulting Excise Officer,	354
Bacteriological Department in 1902,	426
Balik Papan, Christmas at,	52
Belilios Public School,	81
Benevolent Association, Hongkong,	85
Births and Deaths in the Colony,	379
Borneo, North,	346
Brave Constable,	26
Bridge Across the Harbour, Suggested,	387
"British Consul" at Hongkong,	297
British Trade in China,	306, 349
Broker's Case at Shanghai,	442
Brough Co., at the Theatre Royal, 135, 152,	173, 190, 214
"Buddhism," Lecture by Mr. Clementi,	211
Building Bill, Property-owners and,	351
Cable to the Philippines,	389
Campbell, Late Mr. R. M.,	468
Canton, Death of Dr.,	153
Canton's New Viceroy,	439
Chang Chih-tung	197
Chang Chih-tung, Viceroy, at Court,	415
Chekiang, Disturbance in West,	49
Chili, News from,	36
China Association,	280
China League Annual Report, The,	391
China Merchants S. N. Co.,	35
China and Portugal,	440
China's Foreign Trade in 1902,	283
Chinese Amok at Singapore,	445
Chinese Eastern Railway Co.,	13
Chinese and H. E. the Governor,	253
Chinese Minister at Washington, Banquet to,	153
Chinese in New Zealand,	414
Chinese Opium Tax, The,	415
Chinese Treaty Revision,	350
Christmas at Balik Papan,	52
City Hall, Meeting,	154
Clan Fight, A Chinese,	427
Clementi, Mr., on Buddhism,	311
Coasting Trade in Far East	209
Coffin-Breaker,	344
Collapses of Buildings, Enquiries into,	31, 54
Collision in the Inland Sea, Terrible,	352
Colonial Church Council,	246
Commercial Development of Dalny,	414
Complaint from Argonaut	354
Concerts,	259
Conquest of Manchuria,	392
Corea and Japan,	169
Corean Affairs,	439
Coronation Celebration Fund,	91
Currency Question, 148-149 (supplement), 171, 245	353
Dalny	175
Danger and a Nuisance, A,	46
Diocesan Boys' School,	408
Disturbances for Hongkong Officials,	

MISCELLANEOUS, Continued:—	PAGE
Diocesan Choral Festival, ...	65
Dock, The Admiralty, ...	224, 258
Dragon Festival at Aberdeen, ...	408
Dutch Steamship Line, New, ...	388
Edlin, Death of Mr. F. O. ...	26
Electric Light Station at Kowloon, ...	298
Ellis Kadoorie School, ...	87
Empress-Dowager's Tea Parties, ...	197
Evans, Murder of Mr., ...	80, 74, 226
Exciting Incidents in the Harbour, ...	116
Explosion of Powder Magazine at Canton, ...	276
Festival at Macao, ...	439
Fires in Hongkong, ...	5, 249, 260, 298, 405
Foreign Trade of China in 1902, ...	263
Forged Banknotes at Shanghai, ...	191, 209
Freighters, Big, for Pacific Trade, ...	345
French Army in the East, ...	388
French Troops and Loet, ...	36
Gage Street Murder ...	258
German Firms in China ...	349
Glory Avenged ...	350
Gold, Siberian... ..	395
Gubernatorial Commendation ...	352
Hanoi, A Visit to, ...	25
Harbour, Exciting Incidents in ...	116
Harbour Master's Report for 1902, ...	388
Hardy, Rev. E. J., on "Marriage," ...	228
Hart's, Sir Roberts, Decorations, ...	388
Health of Hongkong ...	425, 438, 456, 457
Hongkong's Assets and Liabilities ...	430
Hongkong and Manila Trade ...	197
Hongkong Benevolent Association ...	85
Hongkong Church Missionary Association ...	23
Hood, Death of Inspector, ...	27
Hongkong Volunteer Corps ...	145
Indian Notes ...	51
Indian Runs Amok ...	26
Japan and Corea ...	162
Japan, Political Situation in ...	50
Japanese Stowaways ...	352
Kang Yu-wei, Chinese Reform Leader, ...	407
Kansu, Situation in ...	49, 261
Kinshan, Launch of the ...	48
Kirkdubrightshire Case, ...	207
Komatsu, Death of Prince, ...	154
Kowloon British School ...	27
Kowloon Dock Ball ...	25
Kowloon Electric Light Station... ..	298
Kowloon, Telephone Service to ...	174
Kwangsi Famine, ...	293, 331, 344, 372, 425
Kwangsi Famine Fund... ..	391, 413, 429, 442
Kwangsi, Situation in ...	196, 209, 428
Legal Contest at Manila ...	345
Lehmann, Suicide of Mr. ...	335
London College of Music Examinations ...	335
Lu-han Railway ...	413

MISCELLANEOUS, Continued:—	PAGE
Mackie, Retirement of Inspector ...	275
Magistracy, a Day at the ...	875
Mails, The Far Eastern... ..	385
Manchurian Negotiations, ...	440
Manila Hemp Trade ...	353
Manila and Hongkong Trade ...	197
Manufacture of Rebels, ...	440, 189
"Marriage," Lecture by Rev. E. J. Hardy ...	228
Masonic Affairs, ...	6, 153
Mining Development: ...	274
Mining in Far East ...	182
Missions in China ...	246
Moffitt, R. P., Case of ...	375, 390
Murder by Chinese in Hongkong, Official ...	888
Murder by a Foreigner in Shanghai ...	413, 427
Mutiny on a British Ship, ...	393
Nanking Bund Collapse ...	68
Navy League (Hongkong Branch) ...	45
Navy League, Shanghai and the ...	379
Newchwang, Situation at ...	374
New-Year Festivities in Hongkong ...	25
Nippon Yusen Kaisha ...	430
Northern Notes - ...	429
North-West, Rumoured Movement in ...	12
Nurnburg in a Typhoon ...	409
Observatory, Hongkong, ...	212
Old Dodge, An, ...	413
On the List, ...	374
Osaka Exhibition, ...	283
Pacific Mail New Liners ...	250, 291
Parade Ground, Ceremony on the, ...	406
Pentecost, Rev. Dr., in Hongkong, ...	133, 154
Philippines Customs Receipt, Shrinkage in, ...	182
Philippines, Silver Bulion for, ...	246
Philippines Tariff and Currency, ...	49, 258
Pigeon Show at Kowloon Hotel, ...	108
Pirates attack Missionary Boat, ...	209
Plague Case from Hongkong, ...	275
Plucky Chinamen, ...	15
Police Smoking Concert ...	6
Pollard's Lilliputians... ..	101, 116, 135, 250
Port Arthur, Open Door at, ...	182
Possible Danger to Navigation, ...	415
Post Office Annual Report, ...	408
Property-owners and Building Bill ...	351
Public Schools, Hongkong, ...	172
Queen's College Prize-giving, ...	65
Railway Co., Chinese Eastern, ...	13
Railway Projects, Siberian, ...	364
Red Cross, Presentation of, at Government ...	99
House, ...	392
Rice Tribute, ...	409
Russia and Manchuria, ...	410
Russia and Newchwang, ...	415
Russian Navy, ...	410
Russian Trade in the Far East, ...	410

MISCELLANEOUS, Continued:—	PAGE
S. George's Ball ...	24
S. John's Cathedral ...	86
Salving Stranded Steamer ...	259
San Cheung, The s.s. ...	67
Schools, Hongkong Public ...	173
Singapore and Ships' Doctors ...	392
Seamen's Institute, Kowloon ...	206
Seamen's Mission ...	6, 28, 81, 232
Seoul, Mysterious Affair at ...	300, 313
Shanghai and Currency Question ...	313
Shanghai, Evacuation of ...	43
"Shanghai Mercury," Ltd., ...	442
Shanghai Newspaper Case, Sequel to... ..	108
Shanghai, New Time at ...	86
Siamese Crown Prince in Hongkong ...	65
Siamese Frontier, Gold and Coal on the ...	392
Siamese Mint, Closing of ...	49
Siberia at Home ...	277
Siberian Route, The ...	212
Situation in Peking, ...	458
Smoker, Boat Club... ..	395
Society in Hongkong ...	388
Spanish-American War, Sequel to ...	363
Smuggling Case, Hongkong-Manila... ..	260
Steamer Ashore at Chefoo... ..	276
Straits Currency, ...	446
Street Fight, Serious ...	259
Stock of Currency in Hongkong... ..	282
Stowaways Bill ...	294
Telephone Service to Kowloon ...	174
Terrorism in Hongkong ...	116
Test Case at the Police Court, ...	432
Tonkin, British Squadron at ...	100
Trade Opportunities in Eastern Siberia, ...	414
Tragedy in the Harbour ...	25
Tragedy on High Seas ...	245
Tramways, New ...	456
Trans-Siberian Railway ...	410, 458
Tsingtao, German Colony of, ...	315
Tung Fu-hsiang's Movements ...	38
Tung Wa Hospital, New, Branch ...	226, 425
Tungkum Medical Missionary Hospital ...	393
Union Church ...	333
Uraga Dock Co's Difficulties ...	445
Valletta in Collision... ..	350
Victim of Thieves ...	259
Victoria Gaol in 1902, ...	231
Victoria Recreation Club ...	314, 335, 355, 444
Volunteer Church Parade ...	440
Volunteer Corps, Hongkong... ..	145, 212, 247, 335
Waldorf Co., at Theatre Royal, ...	6
"War Operations" in China Sea, ...	409
Weddings at S. John's Cathedral, ...	116, 428
Wreck of a Barkentine, ...	293
Wreck of the s.s. <i>Foomoon</i> , ...	391
Yung Lu's Funeral; ...	411
Yunnan, Situation in, ...	393

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Oderland Trade Report.

VOL. LVII.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 3RD JANUARY, 1903.

No. 1

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Epitome of the Week, &c.	1
Leading Articles:—	
The Record of the Year	2
The Peace of Europe	3
Humiliated China	4
Yunnan Railway Question	4
Hongkong Sanitary Board	4
The Health of Hongkong	5
Plucky Chinamen	5
Fires in Hongkong	5
The Evacuation of Shanghai	5
Entertainments	6
Theatre Royal	6
Seamen's Mission	6
Masonic Affairs	6
Macao	6
Swatow	6
Hoihow	7
Foochow	7
Northern Notes	7
Correspondence	7
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	8
Hongkong High-Level Tramways Co., Ltd.	8
Supreme Court	9
Crickets	9
Football	10
Rifle Match	11
Local and District Events, 1902	11
The Rumoured Movement in the North-West	12
Chinese Eastern Railway Co.	13
Hongkong	13
Miscellaneous	13
Commercial	14
Shipping	16

BIRTHS.

On the 30th December, at Hongkong, the wife of REGINALD DOWSETT THOMAS, S.S. Nanning, of a son.

On the 30th December, at the Peak Hospital, Hongkong, the wife of J. F. WRIGHT, Manila, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 29th December, at the Union Church, Hongkong, by the Rev. H. Hickling, SAMUEL FARREL (S.S. *Sungkiang*), to JANE JANET AITKEN, youngest daughter of the late JOHN AITKEN, of Greenock.

DEATHS.

On the 22nd December, at Shanghai, EDOUARD BASTIEN, aged 69 years.

On the 27th December, at 11.30 p.m., at "Sperangee," Peak Road, RACHEL, the dearly beloved wife of DAVID HASKELL, aged 37 years. Deeply regretted.

On the 30th December, at 6.15 p.m., at the Peak Hospital, GRACE ANNIE, dearly beloved wife of JOHN SCOTT HARSTON, aged 27 years. [3503]

On the 31st December, 1902, at Shanghai, ALFRED AGUSTUS LOUREIRO, beloved son of the late JOSE DA SILVA LOUREIRO, H.M.F.P.M.'s Charge d'Affaires at Tokyo and MARY LOUREIRO. Hongkong and Japan papers please copy.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.

LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 3rd December arrived, per P.M. steamer *China*, on the 31st December (28 days); and the French mail of the 30th November arrived, per N.Y.K. steamer *Sanuki Maru*, on the 2nd January (33 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Italian Ministry has fixed the indemnity due to the Italian missionaries in China at 14,000,000 francs.

Mr. A. H. Savage Lander arrived at Shanghai on the 28th ult. by the Pacific Mail S.S. *China*, and has come on to Hongkong.

H.E. Wei Kuang-tao, Viceroy-elect of the Liangkang provinces, is expected to arrive at Nanking on or about the 19th January.

A great ceremony took place at Shanghai on the 27th ult. over the laying of the foundation-stone of a grand German post-office in the British settlement.

Viceroy Yuan Shi-kai has proposed and the Imperial Government has accepted a scheme for the formation of a Department of Communications on the Japanese model, having complete control of China's postal service.

The following two telegrams are dated Seoul, December 22nd:—"The object of Ye Yong Yik's visit to Port Arthur is, it is rumoured, to negotiate for a loan [from Russia] on the security of mining concessions in Hung-Ken-To and Peng-an-To districts"—"The entry of the Russian bluejackets to the capital has been stopped."

News is coming from Kausu, according to a Peking despatch, confirming the idea that everything is quiet there. The rumour of a revolt of Tung Fu-hsiang is apparently caused by the fact that the Governor-General of Shenkan had given orders a few weeks ago to a Mohammedan military mandarin to enlist soldiers for the Governor-General of Szachuan for the suppression of the rebellion in that province, which orders, however, were subsequently withdrawn.

There are at present four merchant steamers under the Korean flag, but the peninsular Government possesses no navy. The *Osaka Asahi* learns that the Kawasaki dockyard, Kobe, has obtained the contract for the construction and arming of a Korean cruiser. The cost is fixed at 500,000 yen, of which 50,000 yen is being paid in advance. This, the first Korean warship, will have a displacement of 1,800 tons and a speed of 14 knots, and is intended to be employed as a Government transport, and lighthouse and Customs cruiser, in ordinary times. She is to be ready for sea in 18 months. The cost of construction is to be appropriated from Customs revenues, and it is reported that Mr. McLeavy Brown, Chief Commissioner of Korean Customs, is one of those who signed the agreement for the Korean Government.

Mr. H. Lehmann, of Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co., who returned to Shanghai from home on the 27th December, was found dead in bed on the morning of the 31st, having committed suicide for some cause unknown. Mr. Lehmann passed through Hongkong only a little while ago on his way to Shanghai after a two months' holiday at home. He had lived in the northern port and had been connected with the firm for many years. He was well-known there and popular, and the news of his tragic death will be received with profound regret among the circle of his friends and acquaintances. The telegram which the representatives of the firm here got apprising them of the affair contained no further particulars than those given above. Mr. Lehmann was a man of fine physique, so that his action could hardly have been occasioned by ill-health; it is thought that mental derangement may have been responsible for the tragedy.

Complaint has been lodged with the Wai Wu-pu by the Russian Minister in relation to the operation of the railway north of Shanhaikwan, the *Shanghai Times* says. It is said to have been one of the stipulations of the transfer of the railway from the Russians to the Chinese, that if persons of other than Chinese nationality were to be employed as executive or in an advisory capacity on that section of the road, such appointment should fall exclusively to Russians. The Russian Minister is said to be finding fault because several appointments have fallen to Britons.

A Shanghai native paper's Peking correspondent writes that "General's Su's policy" in quelling the Kwangsi rebellion has been pardoning those insurgents who surrendered. Lately he has again asked permission of the Grand Council to pardon a prominent rebel leader, Hsin Ching-sen and others. The Grand Council replied that the General's policy could be used as a temporary remedy only, but could never be pursued as a permanent one. Again the rebel leader Hsin and others are of a most fickle nature and full confidence should not be given to their promises, so the General must test them to their full before accepting their surrender."

Authentic information has been received at Harbin, says the *Vostochny Vistnik* of Vladivostok, to the effect that bands of Chinese marauders (Tunguses) have appeared in Southern Manchuria. The native population at Teitsihar and in the vicinity has also of late shown signs of hostility towards foreigners, whose position is fast becoming serious. The local Chinese Governor, or *Dzian-Dzun*, hesitates to deal with the marauders, though for his own personal safety he has already strengthened the guard around his house by several hundred soldiers. Although a repetition of the late Chinese troubles in this part, when we had no railway complete, no troops in readiness and no guns, is hardly probable, it will nevertheless be necessary for the authorities to adopt proper measures in good time; otherwise the least delay in case of an uprising might lead to serious consequences.

A meeting of the Penang Chamber of Commerce, at which a resolution was passed in favour of a gold standard, was held on the 18th ult., with Mr. Robert Yeats in the chair. Some of the speakers wanted the Chamber to mention a conversion rate. The Chairman in dissenting said that the time for discussing the exchange rate would be when the report of the Currency Commission came before the Legislative Council. The balance of opinion expressed leaned to a 2/- dollar. Another strong point made was that the change to gold should be made now before disaster arises from the dollar dropping to 1/6 or 1/4. The Miners' Association discussed the Currency Question at a meeting at Kuala Lumpur, and passed a resolution in favour of holding on to a silver basis. The Miners held that a low dollar suited them, and that they would never be able to get their coolies to consent to or understand the proposed change. The United Planters' Association have held a meeting at Kuala Lumpur at which it was decided by eight votes to one that the fixing of the local currency on a gold basis would be beneficial to the planting community. The resolution further declared that the conversion should take place on the basis of the sovereign with decimal subsidiary coinage.

THE RECORD OF THE YEAR.

(Daily Press, 1st January.)

When the Twentieth Century, of which the year just over was the second, comes to be reviewed as a whole, we may be certain that 1902 will be considered among the more eventful years. Much has occurred during its course which must help to shape the history of the world, alike in the Far East and elsewhere. At the present day two events seem to stand out prominently among all others, and we think that it is not only Britons who will allow this. First in importance, there was the end of the great South African War, formally notified by the signature of peace on the 31st May, whereby a struggle which had raged for the greater part of three years and had hampered to a most serious extent the general policy of Great Britain, was brought to a successful termination; now, as Mr. CHAMBERLAIN just declared at Durban, the Dutch have accepted the paramountcy of the British flag, and what can longer separate the two nations? And secondly there was the Anglo-Japanese Agreement, signed on the 30th January, whereby Britain departed from her traditions of isolation and allied herself with the newest of the Powers. Both these occurrences were hailed by Britons in the Far East, as at home by all clear-thinking people, with expressions of deep gratification. Out here it is felt that Great Britain is able once again, if wisely guided, to strive for her former proud position in this part of the world. But great as both these events were, there was another which momentarily attracted more attention all over the world. We refer to King EDWARD's illness and the postponed Coronation, which in June caused all hearts to be full of apprehension. Fortunately it was not very long before fears were relieved, His Majesty's constitution and courage triumphed, and early in August the whole of the British Empire was able to unite in rejoicings over the ceremony of crowning the King-Emperor, while among the other nations hardly a single discordant voice was raised. Though the Coronation, as ultimately carried out, was not as gorgeous as it would have been, there is no doubt that the sympathy for the central figure was rendered practically universal by his narrow escape from death. Among those who evinced the warmest concern was His Majesty the German Emperor, and if anything could have undone the effect of the anti-British campaign in Germany during the South African War it would have been the Kaiser's courtesy and solicitude. Unhappily evidence is abundant that Britons were too deeply offended over the vile calumination of the army in South Africa to forgive the traducers for the sake of their ruler. Time, it is to be hoped, will all the breach, but it is plain from the dissatisfaction at home over Anglo-German co-operation against Venezuela that the time is not yet come. The Venezuelan affair, which at first looked dangerous on account of susceptibilities in the United States, now seems likely to reach a peaceful settlement. It was hoped by the European Powers that President ROOSEVELT would undertake the arbitration of the dispute, but it is apparently to go to the Hague Tribunal. That disappointment has been freely expressed over the President's refusal shows how highly he is esteemed. Last year we prophesied that he would be too weak President of the United States, and our prediction has been abundantly fulfilled. The main danger is that his strength must bring him into conflict with one of the

strongest forces in the world—that of money, as exemplified in the great Trusts and "Combines." The struggle can but be a terrible one, demanding a man of far more than average strength and character.

Turning to the Far East, we find that 1902 has been fruitful in promises of great improvements in the state of affairs, but the end of the year sees these promises still unfulfilled. Three very important agreements (apart from that between Great Britain and Japan) were signed during the twelve months, the Manchurian Convention, the Anglo-Chinese Commercial Treaty, and the Franco-Siamese Treaty. The last-named compact, which was signed on the 7th October, appeared to all but the French Colonial party to be very favourable to France; but at least it was an honest attempt to get rid of the dangerous state of friction between France and Siam. Whether it will be ratified seems doubtful, so loud in their expressions of discontent are the advocates of an ever aggressive policy on the Indo-Chinese frontiers. It is yet possible that serious troubles may arise over the Siamese question. The Manchurian Convention, which was signed on the 9th April last, alone has begun to take effect. That it was a very one-sided affair, our readers are well aware. The terms imposed on China were very hard, but in return the evacuation of Manchuria by instalments was guaranteed. What this "evacuation" means the *Times* correspondent at Peking has revealed. The Russian troops have retired to all the strategic points of the country which they have evacuated and dominate it as completely as if they had remained in avowed full possession. Manchuria is, in fact, to all intents and purposes a Russian province. The MACKAY Treaty, signed on the 5th September, but still unratified, has been claimed as a great achievement, and its originator has received encomiums without number. It must seem to us here in Hongkong that until that Treaty, with its promises of the abolition of *lekin*, etc., becomes an accomplished fact, its merits can only be discussed academically. Many commercial men of the highest authority do not believe that it will come into operation in its present form: there are too those who do not think it would be the panacea it is supposed to be, even if it were strictly carried out by China. It was imagined by some that when the Emperor KWANG HSU returned to Peking on the 7th January, 1902, the way was paved for the regeneration of China. It only remained to conclude the Commercial Treaty and then China under a new régime would start on the path of progress. We need hardly say that these optimists were not generally accepted as trustworthy prophets. How little they were able to judge the future has been shown in the twelve months just now elapsing since the Emperor's return to the Capital. The reactionaries are almost as much in power as before the flight from Peking. H. M. KWANG HSU is still a nonentity. Commerce labours under nearly all the old restrictions. In August last two particularly brutal murders of British missionaries occurred at Chengchow, in Hunan province, which almost led to a diplomatic rupture between Great Britain and China. Compensation has been made, but very tardily. To add to her misfortunes China, never rich in honest officials, has recently lost one great man in LIU KUNG-YI and another man whom all Europeans who came in contact with him esteemed, TAO MU, late Viceroy at Canton. Their successors will be hard to find, and without upright officials in the important posts the Powers can put

no trust in China's promises. Among themselves the European nations have shown an extraordinary amount of distrust in matters concerning China. Owing to this, Tientsin was not handed back until August; while Shanghai, in spite of the promises given to LIU KUNG-YI before his death, is only now being completely evacuated. The intrigues of the time-serving Prince CHING with Germany undoubtedly delayed very considerably the evacuation of Shanghai. This month the Settlement, freed of its unnecessary garrisons, will be able to pay attention to the subject of commercial advance. Weihaiwei, Britain's latest acquisition in these seas, must also look to a commercial future. After an extraordinary record of vacillation the home Government decided not to make a fortress or an efficient naval base of the place, but to maintain it merely as a sanatorium and summer resort for the fleet. Yet with the Colonial Office in charge and under the rule of Mr. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, Hongkong's late Colonial Secretary, Weihaiwei may still have a future more glorious than that of a third-rate watering-place. Its resources are untried as yet.

For Hongkong, 1902 has been one to be remembered. Commercially the year has been eminently unsatisfactory, several causes combining to accentuate the difficulties created by a fluctuating and declining exchange. To the merchant, the middleman, and the retailer alike, it has been a year of anxiety and worry, their operations resulting in either loss or scanty profits. In the market for piece goods semi-stagnation has ruled for the most part, a hand-to-mouth business for immediate requirements being the best that can be recorded. The tightness of money, the instability of exchange, the partial failure of crops, the disturbed condition of the interior of both the Kwang provinces, and the increase of taxation consequent on the indemnity imposed upon the Chinese Government by the Foreign Powers have operated to restrict demand for all classes of cotton and woollen goods, more especially the better makes, which the decline in the value of silver has placed beyond the reach of all but the opulent. The trade in yarns has been equally unremunerative, so much so that two large mills in Bombay have closed already and more are expected to follow. The decline in this important import is distinctly traceable to the depreciation of silver. In opium there has been a fairly large business done, principally in Bengal drug, due, however, to exceptional causes, namely the partial failure of the poppy crop in Yunnan and consequent dearth and scarcity of the native drug, and partly to the speculation created by an attempt—happily defeated by the vigorous policy of Sir ERNEST SATOW—to raise the duties on foreign opium by about one hundred per cent. The trade in kerosene oil which is a steadily growing one, was barely maintained in 1902, the failure of crops and the disturbances in the Delta having served to check the imports into Kwangtung. In general goods the trade has also been restricted through the constant variations in exchange, leading to a marked reduction in many classes of imports. The same cause has had a malign influence on exports, the difficulty of arranging exchange being a serious matter, prejudicially affecting business. The export of silk has been quite up to the average, but the dollar price has risen *pari passu* with the fall in the white metal. In sundry exports there has been little change, the quantities being

comparatively small. Large shipments of rice have had to be imported from Wuhu and Chinkiang for Canton, owing to the failure of the southern rice crops. Freights have ruled low throughout the year, and the shipping trade generally has been bad. Some of the local industries have also been less prosperous than usual this year, and the business in refined sugar has been simply disastrous. The stock market has been depressed during the latter half of the year, and quotations have, in many cases, undergone a sharp decline. Altogether the commercial record is a most unfavourable one, and there seems no immediate prospect of any durable improvement setting in unless successful measures are taken to secure a fixed basis of exchange. In other respects, too, 1902 has left many causes for regret. During the year there have been 572 cases of plague, with 559 deaths; there was also a severe outbreak of cholera and a slight one of small-pox. The water supply has been deficient, and the year opened and closed with the intermittent system in force. It is proposed, as a result of the visits of Messrs. SIMPSON and CHADWICK, the expert commission despatched from home which issued several reports in the first half of 1902, to attempt a thorough regeneration of Hongkong, and the means proposed is the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance which has occupied so much of the Legislative Council's attention. But it is obvious that the process must be slow, and that all-important adjunct of good sanitation, a plentiful water-supply, is very far off indeed. Though 1902 closed with none too hopeful auguries, however, some notable local improvements and additions have been made. For the first time in Hongkong's history, a school for exclusively European children has been open, at Kowloon. On the 15th January last the foundation-stone was laid of a great undertaking, the Naval Yard Extension. Many think that the removal of the Naval Yard to the mainland would have been preferable, but all must admit the magnitude of the present works. On the 4th August Major-General GASCOIGNE, who administered the Colony's government to the general satisfaction during H.E. the Governor's absence from January to September, turned the first sod of King's Park, Kowloon, which promises to be a worthy memorial of the Coronation year. Another memorial of 1902 is the CONNAUGHT statue, soon to be followed by two others to be erected in the neighbourhood of the late Queen's statue. There were many changes in the *personnel* of the Colony last year, from various causes. By death Hongkong saw carried off two very familiar figures, Commander W. C. H. HASTINGS and Mr. DAVID GILLIES. The Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART left us for Weihaiwei, being succeeded at the Colonial Secretary's Office by the Hon. F. H. MAY. Commodore POWELL departed in April, his place being filled by Commodore ROBINSON. Sir THOMAS JACKSON, whose name must always be associated with the story of the Colony's growth, has gone, and Mr. T. H. WHITEHEAD was called to London. Sir JOHN CARRINGTON had already left when 1902 opened, and his place is filled by Sir W. MEIGH GOODMAN, while a new Attorney-General is here in Sir H. S. BERKELEY. Many other changes might be mentioned as well. Hongkong's external relations have not been devoid of trouble. Two outrages against British subjects occurred on the Canton waterways, one on the 13th January when the *Nanning* was fired upon and the Rev. C. E. L. COWAN wounded, the other on the 12th November, when Mr. EVANS, constable at H.B.M. Consulate,

Canton, was fatally injured by pirates. Piracy and brigandage having been rampant on the neighbouring mainland last year, it is perhaps rather to be wondered at that no more foreigners were molested. The turbulence of the Chinese across the water seems to some extent to have affected their fellow-countrymen in Hongkong, for the word strike has been in the air a good deal, and labour troubles have been threatening. Altogether, the promise of 1902 cannot be said to have been fulfilled. Still more reason, therefore, have we to wish our readers in 1903

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR.

THE PEACE OF EUROPE.

Daily Press, 29th December.)

Notwithstanding the very cautious and statesmanlike speech delivered by Mr. BALFOUR at the Lord Mayor's banquet last month, it is clear to any one who can read between the lines that the condition in Europe is by no means satisfactory, and that unless something very unexpected happens the continent is rapidly drifting into a war which, as far as can be foreseen, will not be of less importance nor fraught with fewer territorial and constitutional changes than the struggle that followed the great upheaval of the nations after the great French Revolution. We have lately at some length spoken of one of the causes making for war in the mischievous movement of Pan-Germanism. The inevitable result of any attempt on the part of the North Germans to possess themselves of the German provinces of Austria will be the claim of Russia, with the tacit adhesion of the Slavonic provinces, to seize the former portions of Poland which she condescendingly gave to Prussia and Austria, as a sop to induce them to close their eyes while she swallowed up the lion's share of that ill-fated kingdom. But the position of Russia herself is one calling for grave consideration, as there are there also serious movements which seem to be impelling her, almost unconsciously to herself, into a life or death contest. Somewhat foolishly, it seems to us in the face of recent developments, our recent policy of yielding has been, as it was certain to be, interpreted as due to fear, pure and simple, that being the only motive comprehensible to a nation in Russia's stage of semi-civilisation. That we committed a grave error in withdrawing our fleet from Port Arthur when we held in our hands the key to the entire position is now only too apparent to the most peacefully disposed. Our apparent weakness has in fact already brought us dangerously near the inevitable. But have we been lately displaying any firmer purpose? We made, it is true, an alliance practically offensive with Japan, but we find that, so far from taking any notice of it, Russia is quietly and steadily advancing in places and by methods that not very many months ago we held out to her would end in war. Yet in the face of this, with each step forward we withdraw and take a less prominent position. It is only a week or so ago since Russia quietly informed our Government that the time had come when in her own interests she ought to open direct communications with Afghanistan. We seem to have simply said no, but to have refused our consent in such a half-hearted manner that not unnaturally she now tells us that she has been ever so long ago in direct correspondence and does not intend to withdraw. It never seems to have occurred to our statesmen when the

idea was first suggested to point out to Russia that any change of policy on our part must be preceded by a fundamental change in her own methods. For instance, we have permitted ourselves little by little to be excluded from the entire of the continent of Asia except the seaboard. When Russia takes measures to throw these regions open to our commerce and our influence we are quite prepared to view in the fullest and most friendly spirit of reciprocity her wishes. As the case is, every step gained by Russia becomes the ground for asking for more, to the direct loss not only of our prestige, but of our means and capacity for trade. When is this to stop? Stop it must, and that soon unless we intend to give up our independence, and continue to exist merely on the sufferance of Russia. The question is not here of waiting for a convenient season. As matters stand we have to face the inevitable; shall we be better prepared six weeks or six months, or even two years hence, if by going back we should encourage Russia in her present mood? When we come to look into Russia's internal condition, we can see that unless some very definite course be taken to put an end to this game of aggression, Russia herself will be utterly unable to extricate herself from the consequences of her own wilful acts. As yet Russia is in a manner a free agent, but the internal causes at work are rapidly driving her along a course where the only alternative to bursting up her own Empire will be to dominate the liberty not of one state, but of the whole of Europe. A very interesting letter from a Russian statesman, Prince MESTCHERSKY, which appeared in the *Times*, arrived by last mail, throws a lurid light on the internal condition of the Empire. You English speak lightly, he said, of the introduction of representative institutions into Russia, as if that could be a panacea. How would Englishmen with their experience of free institutions behave under an autocracy? The real evil of Russia is her irresponsible bureaucracy: would you desire to see that increased and strengthened? Yet that would be the inevitable result of introducing institutions which need the education of centuries. Look at France, whose "farcical" constitution is debasing and degrading her; would not Russia be in worse state? The real evil is far deeper. Prince MESTCHERSKY sees the only possible escape for Russia in an autocracy; but is an autocracy on the old lines that have built up the Russian Empire any more possible? We trow not, and herein lies the danger that is driving Russia headlong to perdition, and threatening to take Europe with her. Circumstances are uncanny at the moment; the Emperor NICOLAS II is not certainly fitted for an autocrat: he has no son, and is now hardly likely to have one. The next heir is of feeble constitution, and at best displays none of those marks of a strong man that would enable him to grasp the needs of the country, and insist on their being brought into action. The third heir is unpopular with people and bureaucracy, and any attempt to disturb the latter except by a prince who possessed the confidence of the entire people would bring him to the end only too familiar to reforming Tsars. Whatever happen, the bureaucracy feels that there is coming a struggle for existence, and every effort to divert the attention of the nation by diplomatic or military victories may, we may rest assured, be attempted. Our statesmen probably have foreseen this, but they exhibit no sign of comprehending it. Herein lies the danger. Unless we take some stronger steps than we have hitherto

done we are giving Russia the chance of selecting her own time and place for beginning the conflict.

HUMILIATED CHINA.

(Daily Press, 31st December.)

Surely never was any great country placed in such a humiliating position as is China at the present date. Reduced by the natural process of decay, the misgovernment of her rulers, and the pressure of outside peoples to a state which is practically impotence, China is constantly being called upon to repudiate the engagements which she has made with one Power or another. It is not often that she has much to say, even in entering originally into the engagements; still less is she allowed in the matter of the repudiation. Every Power in turn which is "interested" in China—to the great detriment of China's interests, as a general rule—squeezes from the helpless and often prepaid officials at Peking some concession giving special advantages over other Powers. In time the transaction is made public, and at once it becomes a question whether compensation must be given to the rest of the nations or the first bargain denounced. In any case it is China that suffers, and but for her very inertness it would be difficult to see how the Empire could have lasted. Compelled constantly to act in a way damaging to her own strength and reputation, and misled by the authorities at Peking, China drags on an inglorious existence. One or two nations claim to act as far as possible for her good; the others more cynically allow that the guiding motive of their conduct toward China is acquisition. Recently Britain, the United States, and Japan have shown certain compunction and indeed almost friendly feelings toward China, but unless these feelings induce them to co-operate in building up her position to a certain extent the open aggression of other nations will soon bring the whole fabric to the ground. An example of what China has to suffer is furnished in the London telegram which we publish in another column, which states that Russia has brought pressure to bear on China against employing the Japanese instructors whom she had contemplated for her army and that Japan has in consequence appealed to Great Britain to support her claim to be considered on an equal footing with the other Powers. This claim of Japan, we are glad to see, is acceded to by Lord Lansdowne, and it may be hoped that Russia's interference may be held in check. But the real humiliation of the affair is not for Japan but for China, who cannot even be allowed to engage military instructors of one nationality without one of her "friends" stepping in to protest. It is only natural that Russia, the country which has wrung most of the unfair concessions out of her helpless neighbour, should be the one to attempt to prevent other Powers from doing anything which may be to the benefit of China. A policy of unblushing aggression against China and of underhand deceit towards the other claimants to China's favours has become a tradition with Russia, and China alone is absolutely unable to put an end to the existing state of affairs. The ideas of reform, about which we heard so much when the Imperial Court was on its way back to Peking, have apparently faded away into nothingness, and China is doomed to get on as best she can amid, and indeed, to a great extent, because of the jealousies of the Powers watching around her. It is impossible to imagine a nation in a more pitiable condition.

YUNNAN RAILWAY QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 30th December.)

An interesting paper was read before the Royal Geographical Society in London last month by Captain C. H. D. RYDER, R.E., on the subject of his explorations with an expedition sent by the Yunnan Company, with supervision by the Indian Government, in 1898 and, after a short interval, in 1899 into the province of Yunnan. Not only did this expedition survey completely the more important part of this province, but in 1900 it proceeded via Szechuen and Tibet to the Yangtze, down which it travelled to Shanghai, arriving there soon after the middle of the year. Yunnan is a province which has been much discussed, owing to the varying estimates of its probable worth to European enterprise and to the burning question of the possibilities of entering it by railway from Burma. Captain RYDER has no doubt as to the province's great future. Close both to British and to French possessions, it abounds in minerals, has a fine climate (in contrast to low-lying and feverish Tonkin and Burma), is entered by the magnificent rivers Yangtze, Mekong, and Salween, and by tributaries of the Irrawaddy, and has every variety of elevation above the sea-level, all the cultivated plains being from 5,000 to 8,000 feet above this, while the three large rivers in the north-western corner of the province flow at a height of 7,000 feet. On the main plateau of Yunnan, between the Yangtze, West, and Red Rivers, are the greater number of the seventy to eighty cities of the province, but Yunnan is full of plateaus, all inhabited by the Chinese, the Shans and Lolo having been driven into the hills and valleys. Yunnan suffered terribly from the effects of the Mohammedan rebellion some thirty years ago, and the ruins of towns still remain to mark the devastation of that time; but the province is recovering now and will not, according to Captain RYDER, be behindhand in the coming expansion of the Chinese Empire. Could only rapid means of intercommunication be provided a large trade would soon arise between Burma and Yunnan in food-stuffs alone, Burma sending its rice in exchange for Yunnan's crops which flourish in a colder climate such as that province has. But with mule-back traffic and rough carts, as at the present time, such trade has little chance. If a railway is impossible, we gather, Burma cannot compete seriously for the trade of Yunnan.

At the meeting of the British Association at Belfast in September last Captain RYDER read a paper on Yunnan, much of which was substantially the same as that read to the Royal Geographical Society at the end of November. From the former paper, however, it appeared that the Yunnan Company had concluded that it was necessary to abandon any idea of a Burma-Yunnan railway, owing to the mountainous nature of the country and the poor prospects of traffic. Judging from Captain RYDER's more recent paper, we should not be inclined to dismiss the idea as entirely hopeless. He speaks of one possible through line only from Burma into China; but if there is one line only, and that is feasible, it is evident that hope need not be abandoned yet of a British line entering Yunnan. The route referred to is from the Kunlong Ferry, up the Nam Ting Valley, and via Tali-fu to Yunnan-fu. Captain RYDER says that in the matter of Burma-China railway communication a great deal of hopeless ignorance of the country is displayed in the various proposals put forward. The Yunnan Company's expedition was, we take it, sent

out to help to dispel this ignorance; but we must confess to feeling uncertain still whether the case has been finally settled against the possibility of the railway. After Lord Curzon's speech to the Rangoon Chamber of Commerce a year ago, we were convinced that no Government help to any such scheme could be expected. After the paper read before the British Association at Belfast, we imagined that the most exhaustive surveying had proved the feasibility of the line out of the question. But the remarks addressed to the Royal Geographical Society by the author of the paper read to the British Association still leaves us in doubt. There seems to be some inconsistency in the views expressed on the two latter occasions.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A special meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Wednesday afternoon in the Board Room for the purpose of considering what action, if any, the Board should take in view of the fact that four cases of plague had occurred in the city during the month of December. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer (President), presided, and there were also present Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works; Hon. Dr. F. W. Clark, Medical Officer of Health; Colonel Webb, R.A.M.C.; Mr. C. McI. Messer, Acting Registrar-General; Mr. E. Osborne, Mr. Fung Wa Chun, Mr. Lau Chu Pak, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

PLAGUE IN HONGKONG.

The PRESIDENT—Gentlemen, my excuse for calling you together at such short notice is that three cases of plague have occurred within the last twelve days, two within the last 48 hours and in one part of the Fourth District, the neighbourhood of Wo On Lane. I have called you together to see whether the Board think it desirable to take any measures with reference to clearing this block of buildings of their inhabitants. If these measures are to prove of any use they must be taken immediately; otherwise I would have given you longer notice.

The SECRETARY read a minute on the subject, prepared by the Medical Officer of Health, recommending the closing of the houses and that the Government be approached with a view to making provision for the accommodation of the displaced inhabitants.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—This is a very narrow lane, is it not?

Hon. Dr. CLARK—Fifteen feet wide.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—How many people will be displaced by the clearing of the block of buildings?

Hon. Dr. CLARK—About 1,500 people of the chair-coolie class. All of them will not go into the houses provided for the displaced inhabitants; many will find quarters of their own.

The PRESIDENT—You will recollect that similar measures were taken in January with reference to two cases that occurred at Jardine's Dock. I move that the Government be recommended to rent certain houses to provide accommodation for the people displaced.

Mr. OSBORNE seconded.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—May I ask if there will be enough accommodation in the houses proposed to be taken for the housing of these people?

Hon. W. CHATHAM—There will be enough.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDENT—It is necessary for the Board to order the immediate closing of these houses. The Board has power under the By-laws for the Prevention or Mitigation of Epidemic, Endemic or Contagious Disease, on the certificate of the Medical Officer of Health or other qualified practitioner, to close houses that are unfit for human habitation (that certificate is here), and the occupants may be removed after 24 hours' notice. We can give them such notice as the Board think necessary. I move that the houses Nos. 1 to 17, Wo On Lane, Nos. 15, 17, 19, 21 and 21A, D'Aguiar Street, and No. 19, Wing Wah Lane be closed as unfit for human habitation.

Hon. W. CHATHAM seconded.

Mr. OSBORNE—Twenty-four hours is a little too soon; give them 48.

This and the motion we agreed to.

The PRESIDENT—I move that we declare the district in which these houses are an infected district for the purposes of house-to-house visitation. It is bounded by Pottinger Street on the west, Wellington Street on the north, and Wyndham Street on the east and south.

Hon. Dr. CLARK seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Hon. Dr. CLARK—I move also that Inspectors Reidie and Fincher be authorised to make this house-to-house visitation, with such other assistance as is necessary.

Hon. W. CHATHAM seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

This was all the business.

THE HEALTH OF HONGKONG.

During the day ending at noon on the 27th ult. a Chinese died of plague at 18, Wing Sing Street. Since then two further cases have been reported, a Chinese being found dead in Stanley Street, during the day ending at noon on the 29th ult. and another dying in Wo On Lane on the day ending at noon on the 31st.

The total number of cases of communicable disease reported in the Colony during the week ending 27th ult. were:—Plague, 1 (Chinese), fatal; diphtheria, 1 (Chinese); enteric fever, 1 (European, imported from Haiphong); small-pox, 1 (Chinese).

PLUCKY CHINAMEN.

In connection with the reward of \$10 offered by a Parsee gentleman in Canton to the two Chinamen who, as reported in our columns on the 23rd ult., sprang from a Yaumati ferry-launch and saved from drowning a woman and two children who had been thrown into the water by the capsizing of their sampan after collision with a cargo-boat, and in response to our request for police assistance in tracing the two men, so that the money, which had been placed in our care, might be handed to them, Inspector Williamson, Tsim-hatsui Station, informs us that their names are Li Yun Shing and Cheung Ng, and that they are respectively a seaman and an engineer on the Yaumati ferry-launch *Lee Ping*. They jumped from the moving launch, and whilst Li Yun Shing dived under the sampan and brought to the surface one child who was pretty far spent, and who afterwards remained in hospital for two days, suffering from immersion, Cheung Ng swam to the assistance of the woman and the other child, and kept them afloat until all were picked up. The sampan was recovered a day or two later by the Water Police.

On Wednesday we had the pleasure of handing to Lai Yun Sing and Cheung Mun the \$10 note which was sent to them, in our care, by a Parsee gentleman in Canton. The two men were brought to this office by Inspector Williamson, Tsim-hatsui, who vouched for their *bona fides*. Lai Yun Sing and Cheung Mun are, as we have already indicated, seaman and engineer respectively on the Yaumati ferry-launch *Lee Ping*, and both are deserving of the best recognition for their brave act, which undoubtedly resulted in the saving of three lives. This is not the first occasion on which Lai Yun Sing has snatched a fellow-being from death, for he possesses the Belilios bronze medal for saving the life of a would-be suicide in the harbour several years back. The story is best told in the words of the certificate he received at the time, and which reads:—"This is to certify that on the 15th day of February, 1895, Lai Yun Sing, fireman on board the steam launch *Kam On*, gallantly rescued a Chinese woman from death by drowning in the harbour, Victoria, Hongkong. The woman was a passenger on the steam-launch, and when the launch was at full speed and passing Kowloon Point, where a strong current is always running, she threw herself overboard. Lai Yun Sing promptly threw her a life-buoy, and when it was seen she made no attempt to use it, jumped into the sea, clothed as he was, swam to her, lived after her as she was sinking, and, getting hold of her, bore her to the life-buoy and secured her in it until the launch was stopped and put back, and both were taken on board. This is further to certify

that the trustees of the Belilios Fund have awarded Lai Yun Sing, for his bravery, a bronze medal and \$25. Given under our hands at Victoria, Hongkong, this 26th day of February, 1895.—(Sd.) E. J. Eitel, Ph.D., Jno. J. Francis, trustees." The present case is one that may very well be taken up by the Royal Humane Society as well as by the trustees for the Belilios Fund.

FIRES IN HONGKONG.

Fire broke out at about 2.30 a.m. on the 27th ult. in a boxmaker's shop at 318, Queen's Road West, and the whole three stories of the house were completely gutted. The damage is not stated.

On the 27th ult. at five minutes to 11 p.m. the alarm was given that fire had broken out at 2, Queen Victoria Street, opposite the Central Market. The Fire Brigade were speedily in attendance, but were for about ten minutes after their arrival on the scene unable to commence operations owing to the water supply in the mains being cut off—the result of the intermittent system. The fire had originated in the ground floor of the house a compradore's shop. Its subjection would in all probability have been a matter of only a few minutes if water had been available, but as it was the Brigade had to stand by and see the flames spreading while they waited for the hoses to fill. A great volume of flame and smoke was belching out of the ground flat. One by one the three upper stories became involved before water was available. At length the Brigade were enabled to play upon the burning building and soon the conflagration was being pretty well held in check. So effective was the firemen's work that the fire was prevented from spreading beyond the tenement in which it had begun, this structure, however, was completely gutted, and the roof fell in. So far the damage has not been assessed. The compradore who occupied the ground floor was away in Canton when the fire occurred. His property is insured with the Fung On Insurance Co. The dwellings above this shop are entirely destroyed. Captain Lyons, Deputy Captain Superintendent, was in command of the Brigade. An accident unfortunately happened to Fireman Rutledge, who fell from a height and sustained injuries which necessitated his removal to the hospital.

Shortly after noon on the 28th ult., the Fire Brigade turned out, for the third time in 48 hours, in response to an alarm of fire at Queen's Road East, Wanchai. Their services were not needed, as the outbreak was confined to a chimney.

Nos. 2 and 4, Cross Street, Wanchai, were gutted by fire on Tuesday morning. The outbreak started between two and three o'clock, but the Fire Brigade, which arrived under Captain Lyons, Deputy Superintendent of Police, were unable to save the two houses. No. 2 was a pawnshop and No. 4 a dwelling-house. The damage amounts to \$23,000 and the insurance to \$35,000.

THE EVACUATION OF SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, 22nd December.

DEPARTURE OF GERMAN TROOPS—FATAL ACCIDENT.

The departure of 150 men of the German garrison from Shanghai on Saturday morning was marred by a fatal accident. As the company, headed by officers and the band of the regiment, were passing the offices of the Equitable Life Insurance Society, on the Bund, the horse of a mounted infantryman collided in some way with a carriage, shied, and throw its rider, a young man 24 years of age, named H. G. Dann. Both legs of the unfortunate soldier were broken, several arteries were severed, and, to make the nature of the fatality more horrible, a clasp knife in one of his trouser pockets was driven, by the force of the impact, right into the groin. Prompt assistance was immediately rendered by Dr. Wendel, the regimental doctor, who was present, and a number of gentlemen who witnessed the accident. Dann was taken inside the offices of the Imperial Bank, and from there he was conveyed to the General Hospital. Here, despite every effort to save his life, the poor fellow died during the afternoon.

In connection with the departure of the troops another regrettable feature made itself apparent, and that was the absence of British officers at the jetty. The officers of the French garrison were present, and it is a pity that a misunderstanding should have interfered with the presence of the British officers to bid a hearty adieu to their German *confreres*. Owing to this omission, the German garrison may not be officially represented at the departure of the British troops to-day.

Later in the day on Saturday a company of the German garrison embarked on board a steamer for Tsingtao. They marched from the camp to the jetty accompanied by the regimental brass and drum and fife bands.

The 14th Jats will start from the Jessfield camp at eight o'clock this morning. At the Loong-wei bridge they will be met by the Town Band, which will play them down the Maloo, along the Bund, and over the Garden Bridge to the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf, where they will embark on the transport *Clive*. From two till three o'clock this afternoon a reception will be held on board by Major Maxwell and the officers of the regiment. The transport will leave soon after three o'clock.

Shanghai, 23rd December.

DEPARTURE OF BRITISH TROOPS.

Yesterday the British garrison, consisting of a battalion of the 10th Jats, left Shanghai for India. The camp at Jessfield was left at eight o'clock, the column being preceded by four mounted Sikh police, and headed by Major Maxwell, the officers, and the regimental band. When passing the German Camp in Bubbling Well Road, the troops were joined by Count von Schlippenbach, the Commander of the German garrison, and several German officers, who accompanied their comrades in arms. At the Loongwei Bridge the Town Band met the troops, and played them down the Maloo, and along the Bund into Hongkew, where they marched straight on board the transport *Clive*, moored at the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf. The men, who were attired in khaki service uniform, looked fit and well, and their progress through the Settlement created much interest among the foreign and Chinese spectators.

In the afternoon a reception was held on board the *Clive* by the officers for their friends, and it was largely attended. Mr. R. W. Mansfield (British Consul), Mr. F. S. A. Bourne (Acting Chief Justice), Lt. Col. Ducat (Military Attaché), Lt. Col. Mackenzie (S.V.C.), Madame and M. L. Ratard (French Consul), and the whole of the officers of the French garrison, being conspicuous on deck. The Town Band, stationed near the ship, played appropriate tunes from two till three o'clock, and then all visitors disembarked. "Auld Lang Syne," "A Life on the Ocean Wave," and "God Save the King" were given by the regimental band, and the big ship slowly moved away from the wharf. As she started on her homeward journey, hearty cheers were given and responded to, and the crew of H.M.S. *Pique*, formed up on the deck of the warship, gave their comrades of the sister service a rousing farewell.

Throughout their stay in Shanghai, the officers have made numerous friends, who were all sorry to bid them good-bye, and the men have done much to enhance, by their behaviour, the fine record for excellent conduct held by the men of the Indian Army, who have been in China since 1900.—*N.C. Daily News*.

The 800,000 one-tael, five-tael, and ten-tael banknotes ordered in Japan by the Governor of Shantung were ready for shipment to Chefoo when the last mails left Japan.

Writing on Christmas Day with reference to the evacuation of Shanghai, the *N.C. Daily News* says:—Under any circumstances, if another cloud should arise here, there are troops close at hand at Hongkong and Tsingtao, and without pressing necessity, it is not wise to maintain the irritation which the presence of a foreign garrison must cause to the Chinese officials. To tell them "We have no confidence in your ability to protect us" is not likely to encourage them to do their best in this direction.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

POLICE SMOKING CONCERT.

By permission of Mr. F. J. B. deley, Captain Superintendent the Hongkong Police held a smoking concert on the 27th ult. in the Mess Room at the Central Station. The entertainment was highly successful and the various items on the programme were very well sustained. Sergeant H. Garrod presided with his accustomed acceptance. The company numbered in all about 150. Among those present were Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse, A.D.S.P., Chief Inspector A. Mackie, Inspectors H. G. Baker, W. L. Ford, J. Gauld, D. D. Cuthbert, and J. H. Gidley. The entertainers were the Brothers Francis, who gave exhibitions of their skill as variety instrumentalists besides playing the pianoforte accompaniments; Messrs. W. Dockree, Debenham, Robins, Harris, F. Varney, Armitage, P. Martin, McCarthy, J. Cooper, vocalists; C. Burnett, vocalist and elocutionist; W. Rogers, coon songster; Gus Gregory, comedian and cornet soloist; and, last but not least, Captain Calder, who gave a humorous description in verse of a voyage up from Australia. Mr. Goodwill also assisted at the piano. Refreshments were served during the evening and a most enjoyable time was spent, though the proceedings near the finish were suddenly cut short by the ring of the fire-bell. The committee in charge of the arrangements carried out their work admirably. Mr. H. Garrod was president, and the other members were Messrs. M. Davitt (vice-president), J. C. Wildin, E. H. Evans, J. Gibson, W. Wright and J. Deveney.

CONCERT AT KOWLOON DOCKS.

On the 27th ult., at Kowloon Docks, an enjoyable variety entertainment was given by the members of the Dock Amateur Dramatic Society. The programme comprised instrumental and vocal numbers and a couple of sketches, both of which went very well. Mrs. Coggin won applause by her cleverly executed contributions on the piano and violin.

THEATRE ROYAL.

On the 27th ult. the comedy *Turned Up* was repeated successfully in the Theatre Royal before a big audience. Mr. Norval McGregor was excellent as *George Medway* and Miss Janet Waldorf as *Sabina Medway*, the sister. Two characters which appealed strongly to the audience were *Caraway Bones* (Mr. St. Clair Bayfield) and *Gleopatra* (Mrs. A. Dow-Currier). Of Mr. Bayfield it may be said that during the season he has never appeared in a more favourable light; the rôle suited him nicely, and a great deal of the fun of the piece centred in his depiction of it. Mrs. Dow-Currier's acting was delightful, and her conception of the part of the old negress, joined to her capital make-up, coincided exactly with the ideas of the audience, who recorded their approval by generous plaudits. A breezy old salt was Mr. Wilson Forbes, with the conventional fondness of the tiller of the ocean for nautical expressions in relation to matters far removed from the sea. Mr. William Fitchett had a good part in *General Baltic*, and did it justice, as did Miss Amy Stanley (Mrs. Pannal), Miss Edith Haye (Mrs. Medway), and Mr. Ernest Macken (*Nod Nod-dam*) to their part.

The Lady of Ostend was played on Monday, *Camille* on Tuesday, and *Sweet Nellie of Old Drury* on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

At the conclusion of the play on the 26th ult., Mrs. A. Dow-Currier, in a pleasant little ceremony which took place behind the curtain, was presented with a handsome silver chateleine of Chinese workmanship as a mark of the appreciation by the Company of her exertions on their behalf. Mr. Wilson Forbes made the presentation, and the health of the recipient, who made a very appropriate reply, was toasted with musical honours. Amongst other toasts were—"The stars, Miss Janet Waldorf and Mr. Norval McGregor," "The Manager, Mr. W. Reule," and "The Press."

The *Indian Medical Gazette* reports that dengue fever, which has been prevalent in Burma (and, the *Gazette* might have added, in the Far East generally) has reached Calcutta and Madras.

SEAMEN'S MISSION.

The usual Christmas festivities were entered into this year with the customary enthusiasm. Again a large number of local friends came forward and made a "Happy Christmas" possible for 250 seafaring men, and the hospitality of Hongkong is not likely to be soon forgotten by those who partook of it in the Sailors' Institute, Kowloon, on Christmas Day. A Sports Committee had been at work and provided a varied and interesting list of events; they had also succeeded in reserving a nice lot of prizes to be awarded to the successful competitors. Three launches having collected the men from the various ships proceeded to Stonecutters' Island, which the Colonial Secretary had very kindly lent for the occasion. Here the men entered very heartily into the sports and appeared to enjoy themselves to the full. The excitement however centred round the tug-of-war between teams representing stokers, bluejackets, marines, and merchant sailors. The latter after a severe struggle were declared the victors.

While the men were thus enjoying themselves the ladies were busy at the Institute preparing for their return. All were quite ready after the afternoon games for the sumptuous tea, &c., with which the table groaned, and full justice was done to the careful catering of the ladies. There did not seem to be an inch of space available either outside—or inside. The wants of the inner man having been thus supplied, an adjournment was made topside. A beautiful little ship about 10 feet long, rigged as a brig and named the "Star" adorned the upper end of the room. A miscellaneous concert was engaged in, the men taking up the choruses in a manner that did credit to British songs. Mrs. Milton kindly distributed the prizes won at the sports in the afternoon. On entering the room each man had received a mysterious numbered card about which there was considerable conjecture during the evening. The solution however was at hand, when the little Captain of the Brig (Miss Lily Thompson) stepped on deck and proceeded to the discharge of the cargo. It was found that the hold of the ship contained some 250 small parcels, and sitting down on the hatch comings the "Captain" quickly proceeded to find consignees for the various packages. Each packet was marked to correspond with the bills of lading in the hands of the men present. It was found that warm hearts had been busy for weeks getting this cargo ready for shipment and not a man left the room without carrying off some portion thereof. All had enjoyed themselves to the full, and many were the expressions of gratitude to the ladies and other friends who had enabled them to spend such a pleasant Christmas.

The annual meeting was held on Tuesday evening, 30th ult., at the Institute, Kowloon. The choir (assisted by some friends) gave a selection of carols. Mrs. Brewett, Mr. Hay and others sang solos, and several of the local clergy gave short addresses.—*Contributed.*

MASONIC AFFAIRS.

At the annual meeting of the District Grand Lodge of Hongkong and South China, Wor. Bro. E. C. Ray presided and invested the following officers for 1903:—Deputy District Grand Master, Wor. Bro. E. C. Ray, Lodge 1026; District Senior Grand Warden, Wor. Bro. F. W. Edwards, 1,165; District Junior Grand Warden, Wor. Bro. D. Macdonald, 525; District Grand Chaplain, Wor. Bro. E. T. Bond, 2,013; District Grand Treasurer, Wor. Bro. H. J. Watson, 1,341; District Grand Registrar, Wor. Bro. G. Bailoch, 1,026; District Grand President of the Board of General Purposes, Wor. Bro. F. W. Clark, 1,165; District Grand Secretary, Wor. Bro. A. C. D. Gourdin, 1,026; District Senior Grand Deacon, Wor. Bro. C. S. Rogers, 1,912; District Junior Grand Deacon, Wor. Bro. L. A. Byworth, 2,013; District Grand Superintendent of Works, Wor. Bro. B. B. Harker, 525; District Grand Director of Ceremonies, Wor. Bro. E. H. Ray, 1,026; District Grand Assistant Director of Ceremonies, Bro. A. H. Hylands, 2,013; District Grand Sword Bearer, Wor. Bro. A. H. Bottenheim, 1,165; District Grand Standard Bearer, Wor. Bros. J. Helbling,

1,912, and G. G. Burnett, 1,341; District Grand Organist, Bro. A. G. Ward, 1,165; District Grand Pursuivant, Wor. Bro. W. W. Wolfe, 1,341; District Assistant Grand Pursuivant, Bro. A. W. Bewley, 1,165; District Grand Stewards, Bros. E. H. Hinds, 1,165, J. W. L. Oliver, 525, J. H. Varcoe, 1,341, H. Bathurst, 1,806, Senior Warden Star Southern China, 2,013, and Senior Warden Foochow Lodge, 1,912; District Grand Tyler, Bro. J. Vanstone. Unofficial members, Wor. Bros. F. D. Goddard, P.M., and W. J. Tatcher, P.M.

At a regular meeting on the 27th ult. of Zetland Lodge No. 525 Wor. Bro. B. Brotherton Harker was installed Worshipful Master, the ceremony being performed by Wor. Bro. E. C. Ray, Deputy District Grand Master. The following officers for 1903 were afterwards invested:—I.P.M., Wor. Bro. Jos. James Bryan; S.W., Bro. I. W. L. Oliver; J.W., Bro. Henry Sykes; chaplain, Bro. T. Wright; treasurer, Wor. Bro. G. J. B. Sayer; S.D., Bro. W. H. Purcell; D.C., Bro. Geo. A. Dias; I.G., Bro. G. Patton; secretary, Bro. E. H. Harker; J.D., Bro. A. H. Skelton; organist, Bro. G. Grimblat Tyler, Pro. I. Vanstone; stewards, Bros. J. Parkes and J. C. Lowe. The installation was followed by a banquet.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 27th December.

WARSHIPS' MOVEMENTS.

The Portuguese gunboat, *Zaire* took her final leave of Macao on Monday and sailed for Goa, leaving the *Diu* in her place. On the day before, the officers of the latter ship gave an "At Home" on the tennis court to the officers of the *Ilitis*, at which H.E. the Governor was present. On Monday also H.M.S. *Robin* arrived from the West River to stay over Christmas. On Monday next she proceeds to Canton.

CHRISTMAS.

The weather during the holidays, if bracing, has not been such as to tempt many people to make steamer trips to Macao or elsewhere, and there were fewer visitors than usual here. Christmas Day passed off quietly enough, and there were not many decorations to meet the eye, though the *Robin* was prettily decorated within and without, and a very hearty Christmas was enjoyed on board. On Christmas Eve Mrs. Morehouse kindly and ably arranged a Christmas Tree, and imported a Father Christmas, which gave great pleasure to the many children who were invited.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 29th December.

CHANGE OF CONSULS.

Mr. B. Twyman, H.B.M. Vice-Consul here, is shortly leaving on furlough and will be succeeded by Mr. H. Fox.

JAPANESE ENTERPRISE.

A party of three Japanese civil engineers arrived here from Fokkien the other day. They were travelling all the way overland and made surveys for a railway. The Chinese Government has issued papers to them which enjoin all officials to be of every assistance to them and look after their safety whilst on their peregrinations in the interior. They are the guests of the Taotai at Chowchowfoo at present.

THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

Christmas has come and gone. In the forenoon it was drizzling and misty, but cleared up towards noon. The celibate members of the Kialat Club celebrated Christmas with good and merry cheer in their Club, where a Christmas tree was put up. The Club premises were also gaily decorated for the occasion.

SHI PING COMPETITION.

I am informed that several boats have been chartered by the Chinese to run in opposition to the North German Lloyd on their Bangkok line, on which they have up till now held a monopoly. As a consequence of this new competition, freights and fares have been reduced by about 90 per cent. by the German Company, who, I am told, will fight the opposition to the bitter end. A sure victory may safely be predicted.

for the North German Lloyd, who are represented here by the great shipping firm of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire. One of the Lloyd vessels left here with a full complement of passengers for Bangkok, the rate of passage by which amounted to only \$1, whereas it never was lower than \$10 heretofore. The agents for the opposition line are the well-known German firm of Messrs. Melchers & Co. The first vessel consigned to the latter agency has left Swatow already for Bangkok, but with scarcely any cargo or passengers.

HOIHOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

ANNUAL SPORTS.

The 3rd annual Hoihow sports meeting was held on Christmas Day on the Customs Palm Tree Site, in the presence of the Taotai, and a goodly muster of European and Chinese residents. The weather was threatening throughout, but the programme was run through without a hitch. Details:—

Judge—J. Acheson, Esq., Commissioner of Customs.

Starter—G. A. Forsaith, Esq.

Committee—Dr. G. Sibiril, Messrs. B. Ryan, and F. G. Veitch.

RESULTS.

PIG RACE.—Owners to drive their own pigs. Two prizes.

Mr. Veitch's	Silk Par c II.	1
Mr. Pedersen's	Kjobenhaven	2
Mr. Ryan's	Moriturus II.	3

11 started.

100 YAR HANDICAP.—Two prizes.

Mr. Murray (10 yards)	1
Mr. Otto (3 yards)	2
Mr. Bocher (6 yards)	3

10 started.

SACK RACE.—Two prizes.

Mr. Mottram	1
Mr. Muir y	2
Mr. Pedersen	3

10 started.

EGG AND SPOON RACE.—Two prizes.

Mr. Veitch	1
Mr. Murray	2
Mr. Mottram	3

9 started.

STONE AND BUCKET RACE.—Two prizes.

Mr. Mottram	1
Mr. Murray	2
Mr. Pedersen	3

9 started.

THREE-LEGGED RACE.—One prize for each of the two winners. Partners drawn for.

Messrs. Murray and McKenzie	1
Messrs. Pedersen and McDougall	2
Messrs. Mottram and Veitch	3

WATER-POT RACE.—Competitors to carry a tin full of water on their heads for 100-yds. Two prizes.

Mr. Mottram	1
Mr. Pedersen	2
Mr. Murray	3

CONSOLATION RACE.—One prize.

Mr. Bocher	1
Mr. Dougall	2

GREASY PIG.—For boatmen and Chinese in European employ.

Won by No. 1 Customs boatman.

POINTS COMPETITION.—Winner of each event to receive 5 points, second 3 points, and third 1 point. Previous winners of this event were debarred.

Mr. Murray, 1st prize (Taotai's Cup).
Mr. Pedersen, 2nd prize.

A letter has been received in Singapore from Calcutta, from Mr. Allan Hamilton, Mr. Brough's manager, relating to the forthcoming visit to Singapore of the Brough Company:—"I am writing the Town Clerk by this mail, asking for the Town Hall to be reserved for Monday, February 9th, on which date we shall pass through Singapore en route to Hongkong per steamer *Nam Sang*. We shall play *Are you a Mason?* the latest London farcical comedy, on the night of February 9th. As you have no doubt read, it is the merriest farce we have had for many a day, and infinitely more amusing than *The Private Secretary* and *Charley's Aunt*. We have been playing the farce here to the heaviest receipts in our experience of Calcutta."

FOOCHOW.

We take the following items from the *Foochow Echo* of the 20th December:—

The festivities of the race-week were brought to a close by two cheerful entertainments, one a dinner given by Mr. Dragoman, the proud winner of "The Champions" and other races, on Saturday evening, to which twenty-four sat down; and the other a tiffin by Captain Hope at his residence at Kuliang on Sunday, at which twenty-seven were present. Both functions passed off successfully and were much enjoyed by all. The guests at both included our sporting visitors from other ports, the movements of the coast steamers having accommodately allowed of their prolonging their stay over the last race day, which has seldom happened before when we have had race-meetings.

At the auction of race-ponies the following prices were realised: *Malgache* \$200, *Merida* \$58, *Nipup* \$15, *Bozer* \$10, *Dotsan* \$100, *Bea-way* and *Doban* were disposed of privately. We understand that three or four more are likely to be offered at auction next week. *Manchu*, *Adonis*, *Calibre* and *Blancmange* have left the port.

On Wednesday last the Provincial Judge, Yang Wen Tiug, entertained a distinguished company at his yamen in the City, including most of the high officials, the foreign Consuls and the Commissioner of Customs. It was the 50th anniversary of His Excellency's birthday. Beyond the banquet given there was a theatrical entertainment which was spoken of by those present as being of unusual excellence, both as regards the dresses and style of acting. The yamen was beautifully decorated for the occasion, varied with handsome banners and scrolls of silk embroidery, most of which had been presented to him in the early hours of the day.

We hear that the French have been granted mining concessions in the district of Shau-wu in this province, and that other nationalities are negotiating for similar privileges.

It is understood that the authorities have engaged the services of a British artillery officer as instructor to this branch of the local army, and that this officer will reside at the White Fort.

It is proposed that a general loan exhibition of photographs be held, under the auspices of the Foochow Camera Club, during the first week of February, 1903.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are taken from the *P. & T. Times* of the 20th ult.:—

The promoter of the Cantonese Company which has obtained sanction to establish water-works in Peking is the son of the present Viceroy of Canton.

The price of sheepskins in Peking remains very high, as the troops have all been given sheepskin coats.

The safe of the German post-office in Tientsin in 1900 has been placed in the Museum of the Impl. German post-office in Berlin. It got a bad battering from the Chinese shells.

The Dowager announces her intention to return to the Winter Palace on the 15th inst., and a course of theatricals will take place.

The new Governor of Szechuen is steadily going on with his extermination of the Boxers, who are daily being either killed or made prisoners.

The Empress Dowager pointed out to the Viceroy her desire that an industrial institute be opened in Tientsin like that in Peking. She enquired very minutely into the general condition of things in Tientsin.

The Boards of Public Works in Peking is to be brought up to date by modern examinations in civil engineering, etc.

The *Jih Jih* considers that the establishment of a State Lottery in Peking is almost certain.

We hear that a Scottish reel was danced on Monday night in Peking at a Leation Ball with the greatest vim and éclat. Who, after this, will dare to say that Cambaluc is not at the very apex of civilisation?

Robberies are so frequent in Peking that the police now signal each other with rifle-shots.

We hear that the golfers have again been submitted to stray shots on the links. The music of the whizzing bullet is apt to disconcert

most men when engaged in the refinements of the putting-green.

The upsetting of a single cart sufficed to keep the Chien Men Street in Peking entirely blocked from 10 a.m. until late at night a few days ago, long strings of carts lining up on either side of the obstruction. Fortunately time has little value in China, or it might have occurred to the people either to pass round some other way, or to remove the overturned cart. The latter would have been the easiest and most practical procedure.

Schools are now opened in Peking for the children of Manchu soldiers, and unless the children attend, the annual allowance to the family is not allowed to be drawn.

The *Jih Jih* says that nothing has been notified about the China Merchants, and that all the reports about the Government acquiring it are untrue. It says, however, that it is probable the head office will be in Tientsin instead of Shanghai.

The Peking police recently ordered the people to do away with the posts in front of their houses, to which they customarily attach matsheds. The people did not take the order seriously, thinking that it was only some official freak, but one day an official came round in a chair, with several carpenters and sawed every post off, also some of the more obstructive sign-boards.

The registered British tonnage entering the port of Tientsin for the year 1902 has been 375,943 tons; as the number of vessels was 339 this gives an average of 1,109 tons per ship. The analogous figures for 1901 were 356,893 tons and the number of vessels 344, giving an average tonnage of 1,037 tons per vessel. We imagine the deduction from these figures is not that the size of the coasting steamers has increased, but that larger ocean going vessels have come to Taku bar straight from England and European ports.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE SECOND STREET HOUSE COLLAPSE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 30th December.

SIR,—Being one of the unfortunate jurors in the Second Street collapse case held at the Supreme Court last Session, whose verdict brought upon them the severe criticisms of the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, and your evening contemporary, allow me through the medium of your paper to make a few comments thereon, with a view to show that our verdict and rider were perfectly consistent and did not merit the censure passed upon them.

The prisoners were charged with manslaughter for directly or indirectly causing, through their negligence, the death of a boy. Very minute evidence was given and opinions expressed by experienced judges of bricks and mortar, one of them drawn from the ranks of the R.E., to wit Mr. Hewitt, and another from the ranks of the much abused P.W.D., Mr. Haggard, both of whom condemned the careless and negligent manner in which No. 10 had been erected, but (to show that even experts may differ greatly in opinion) Mr. Tooker said that the mortar was fairly good and the wall, the one that collapsed, was well built and a good wall; however, upon the evidence of these men we were satisfied that the work was done in a careless and negligent manner, owing to the want of skilled supervision. After evidence had been given—by Dr. Hunter as to *post-mortem*, etc., on the dead body of the boy; from Mr. Figg, proving there was a gale blowing in the Colony about the time these two houses collapsed, during which gale we were informed 89 other houses fell; and from the Police Inspector who found the body among the ruins—we came to the evidence of a witness who was supposed to have actually seen the collapse; this man, a bricklayer, in the course of his evidence stated that he lived in a house on the opposite side of the street to No. 10 and on the night in question was looking out of the window and saw the wall of No. 10 collapse,

fall on to the roof of No. 12 and carry it to the ground; but when requested by the court to repeat his statement said he saw the roof of No. 12 fall in first and it was followed by the wall of No. 10. In fact it seemed to us that he did not know for certain what he did see. Now, regarding No. 12, the house in or under which the boy was undoubtedly killed, this house was proved by two witnesses who lived in it to be in a very bad state of repair, in fact, in the rainy season it was practically untenable, a house that was just as likely to collapse during a typhoon as No. 10. On the 2nd of August last both these houses fell. This was practically the whole of the evidence.

Now, Sir, it is all very well to be very explicit and take elaborate pains, as the Crown did, to prove that No. 10 was erected by the prisoners in a very careless and negligent manner and by so doing had broken the law laid down in the building ordinance, but when they utterly fail to prove as the Crown unquestionably did that this negligence, this breaking of the law on the part of the prisoners, was directly or indirectly the cause of the death of the boy, well then, I fail to see how they could reasonably expect the jury to refrain from giving the verdict they did, and as for the Attorney-General saying we had disregarded the law by giving a verdict of "Not Guilty," I maintain that that statement was absolutely unfounded and out of place, and was contrary to the Chief Justice in his summing-up, when he told us emphatically that unless we were satisfied that the fall of No. 12 was caused by the fall of No. 10 we ought to find the prisoners not guilty. The whole case thus turns on a pivot. Did No. 10 cause by its fall the death of the boy? There was nothing to prove that it did so; perchance it did, perhaps it did, but, Sir, we were there as jurors not to give our verdict on such a grave charge as manslaughter on chances or possibilities, but "a just verdict give according to the evidence," on *solid facts* alone, and if the Crown didn't produce those facts, well, then they have themselves to thank for the consequences.

Now for the rider which has elicited such a storm of abuse and by which we are alleged to have stultified our verdict (in all due respect I think the word multiplied, not stultified, would have been more appropriate in this case), let me endeavour to bring to your notice the facts that prompted us to add it. Mr. Tooker in the course of his evidence stated that no supervision whatever by the P.W.D. had been given over this addition to No. 10 nor to the other nine additions which the prisoners were erecting at the same time. He further stated that about three weeks after the collapse he visited the scene of the disaster and when asked for what purpose he went, said to examine and see whether the building had originally been erected according to plan or not.

Surely, Sir, prevention is better than cure; better to see that a house is properly built and according to plan, during erection, than wait until it collapses to find out whether the law laid down in the building ordinance has been complied with and that the plan has been followed and carried out. If the law has been made, whose duty is it to see that it has been complied with? Surely somebody's. I wonder how many houses are still standing in the Colony which have undergone the same scant treatment as No. 10 at the hands of so-called overseers; probably the next typhoon season will answer this question only too forcibly. Let us refer to the ordinance and see what it says. We find under Section 75 in plain English:—Upon receipt of notice (of the intention of starting work) the Surveyor-General or officers deputed by him for that purpose, shall, as often as may be necessary for securing the due observance of the provisions of this ordinance, enter, inspect and survey every such building or work during its progress.

Now, Sir, from this we can see on whom the duty falls; and if there are any convenient loopholes, or instances where the P.W.D. are exempt from supervising or occasionally inspecting buildings which are being erected for human habitation, the sooner that exemption is annulled the better; if that exemption is made on account of the staff being undermanned, let the numbers be augmented as soon as possible, let public money be spent on an efficient body of men who are capable of doing their work in

a proper and efficient manner, and, to use the words of our rider, let the authorities adopt more stringent measures to prevent houses being built in such a manner as in the case over which we gave our verdict, where men are left entirely to themselves, without any supervision whatever, to erect buildings in such a manner as to render them dangerous for human habitation and the public at large.

It is no good crying over spilt milk; better prevent it from being spilt, and if the precautions taken in the past have proved insufficient to cope with the evil, adopt more stringent measures to prevent it in the future. If stronger measures are adopted, more vigilance displayed, I feel sure house collapses will become less frequent. Builders or contractors may become fewer in numbers but of better quality, and there will be a less demand for scapegoats.

Apologising for taking up so much of your valuable space,—Yours, etc.,

EMERSON. F. GIBSON.

CHINA-BORNEO CO., LD.

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held on the 29th ult. in the offices, 4, Queen's Buildings, for the purpose of considering a special resolution regarding the winding-up of the concern. The Hon. C. S. Sharp presided, and the others present were Messrs. E. Osborne, A. G. Wood, G. C. C. Master, J. C. Peter, H. W. Wickham, J. A. Jupp, A. O. Baptista, Leung Shin Lun and W. D. Jupp (Acting Manager).

The notice calling the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Our last meeting was held on 27th October, when the resolution was confirmed affirming the expediency of effecting an amalgamation of this Company with the Borneo Hardwood Company, Limited, and authorising the Consulting Committee to confirm and carry into effect a provisional agreement entered into for this purpose, with such modifications and additions as they might consider best in the interests of this Company. During the interval which has elapsed arrangements relating to the foregoing have been proceeded with both here and in Borneo, and the time seems now to have arrived when, in order to carry the above-mentioned purpose into effect, we have to ask you to take the further step of passing the necessary resolution to place this Company in liquidation, a step which will be followed in due course by the incorporation and registration of a new Company for the purpose of taking over the two concerns on terms of the agreement made for that purpose. The original provisional agreement submitted to you at the meetings of 11th and 27th October last was as then described, one dated 8th August last, entered into in London between this Company by Mr. J. M. Wheeley, and the Borneo Hardwood Company, Limited, and by the terms of the resolution passed and confirmed by you at these meetings, the Consulting Committee were authorised to confirm the same "with such modifications and additions as the Consulting Committee may consider will best serve the interests of this Company." These modifications and additions referred to certain details, negotiations about which we had been conducting with Mr. Wheeley by telegram, of which it was necessary we should receive written confirmation, and we have since received a further provisional agreement, dated London, 21st October last, which embeds the provisions of the first agreement of 8th August, and all the modifications and additions as arranged, and this later agreement therefore takes the place of that of 8th August. This agreement of 21st October has now been ratified, and becomes the basis of the amalgamation of the two Companies, its provisions being in all essentials the same as those of 11th October last. I may here state that, since the notice was given calling this meeting, it has been considered that the form of resolution therein given is rather bald, and that it should contain some reference to the proceedings at our meetings of 11th and 27th October last, so as to define more precisely the objects and reasons for the proposed liquidation. Any alteration from the form of resolution, as advertised, had better come in the form of an amendment from the shareholders present, so, if anyone will move the necessary amendment,

I shall be obliged if he will do so after the original resolution as advertised has been proposed and seconded. The resolution speaks for itself, but I may explain here that it has been thought advisable to name three persons as liquidators, so as to make full provision for the carrying out of all the necessary arrangements in case of any of them being absent at any time from the Colony. I will now propose the resolution as follows:—"That the Company be wound up voluntarily under the provisions of the Companies Ordinances, 1865 to 1899, and that the Honourable Charles Stewart Sharp, Alexander George Wood, and John Thomas Martin Wheeley be appointed liquidators of the said Company, with liberty for each of them solely to exercise all the powers of the joint liquidators."

Mr. J. A. JUPP seconded.

Mr. MASTER proposed the following amendment to the resolution:—"That for the purpose of carrying into effect the special resolution duly passed and confirmed at extraordinary general meetings of the Company held on the 11th and 27th days of October, 1902, the Company be wound up voluntarily under the provisions of the Companies Ordinances 1865 to 1899, and that the Honourable Charles Stewart Sharp, Alexander George Wood, and John Thomas Martin Wheeley be appointed liquidators of the said Company with liberty for each of them solely to exercise all the powers of the joint liquidators and that for the like purpose the liquidators be and they are hereby authorised to consent to the preparation of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of a new Company to be incorporated under the Companies Ordinances of Hongkong under the name of The China-Borneo Company, Limited, or some similar title."

Mr. PETER seconded, and the amendment was agreed to unanimously.

This was all the business. Another meeting will be held fourteen days from date of meeting to confirm the later resolution.

HONGKONG HIGH-LEVEL TRAMWAYS CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The 18th ordinary annual general meeting of the Hongkong High-Level Tramways Co., Ltd., was held on the 30th ult. in the offices of the general managers, Messrs. J. D. Humphreys & Son, 38, Queen's Road Central. Mr. J. A. Jupp (chairman) presided, and there were also present Messrs. J. Orange, A. H. Mancell, J. A. Tarrant, G. Murray Bain, C. Ewens, G. Rapp, and J. L. Cotter (secretary).

The SECRETARY having read the notice calling the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, The report and statement of accounts having been with you for some days, I propose with your permission to take them as read. The traffic receipts for the year again show a substantial advance, but the costs of running have been largely increased and we must be prepared to face still further increases in the charges accounts in future years. Almost the whole of our rolling stock being imported from England, the fall in exchange on this item alone will have a considerable influence on the running expenses and upkeep. During the year the relaying of the permanent way with new rails has been practically completed and we have a good supply of spare rails in stock. The rolling stock generally is in first-class order, but we have thought it advisable to again write down this account \$5,000, as the wear and tear with the improved time-table is much greater than before. A contract has been entered into for covering in the top station, a much-needed improvement, and the work is now nearing completion. Owing to the increasing number of 3rd class Chinese passengers travelling, principally servants of Peak residents, it has been found necessary to provide a railed-in enclosure at the Garden Road Station for their use. As these two items will increase the amount at debit of stations and shelters by about \$4,000, we have written off in anticipation a further sum of \$1,490.25 from the total under this heading, bringing it down to \$11,000. We feel sure you will approve of our having added \$5,000 to reserve fund. In the opinion of your consulting committee and general managers, it

should be our policy to continue to build up this fund; so that we may be in a strong position to meet any emergency that may arise. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

There being no questions, The CHAIRMAN formally moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. MURRAY BAIN—I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and the passing of the accounts, and in so doing I should say that the shareholders, I think, may congratulate themselves upon the continued good management of the Company.

The motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN moved the re-election of Mr. C. Ewins, Hon. C. W. Dickson, and Mr. J. Grange to the Consulting Committee.

Mr. MANCELL seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. EWENS moved that Messrs Fullerton Henderson and W. H. Potts be re-elected auditors for the ensuing year.

Mr. TARRANT seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

This was all the business.

The CHAIRMAN stated that dividend warrants would be ready on the 31st ult.

SUPREME COURT.

Wednesday, 31st December.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

SEQUEL TO A COMPRADORE'S FRAUDS.

In this case the Tysing shop claimed from Messrs. Lants, Wegener & Co. the sum of \$1,125, restricted to \$1,000, as damages for the non-delivery of 100 cases of beer, being part of 200 cases purchased by the plaintiffs from the defendants and paid for on 23rd June, 1902, the other portion of which, namely, 100 cases, was taken delivery of by the plaintiffs on or about 30th June, 1902.

Mr. J. Hastings of Messrs. Deacon & Hastings, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff firm, and Mr. G. C. C. Master of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master, solicitors, for the defendants.

Mr. Hastings, in his opening statement, said that the plaintiffs had had several large transactions for seven years with the defendants, and following the practice in the case of Chinese dealing with Europeans, the transactions had been carried on through the agency of plaintiff's compradore. Defendant's agent, Chak A Tong, came to the plaintiffs' compradore in June, 1902, asking for an order for beer. An order was given for 200 cases. The price in the agreement was \$9.25, but they were suing on the present market price, which had gone up to \$11.25. A sum of \$1,850 was paid to the compradore to cover the transaction and on 30th June 100 cases were delivered. Although repeated applications were made for the delivery of the remaining 100 cases, plaintiffs could not get them. Then the compradore absconded. Plaintiffs wrote to the defendants and a long correspondence ensued, the result of which was the present proceedings.

Among the witnesses examined was Mr. J. J. Focke, partner in the defendant firm. In June, he said, he was the only partner of the firm in Hongkong and was in charge of everything. Their course of business with regard to selling of goods, such as beer for instance, was for their compradore to go round and solicit orders; when he obtained an order it was referred to the firm for settlement as to delivery, terms of payment, etc. The compradore was not authorised to sell beer to whom he liked, when he liked, or at what price he liked. All transactions required to have his (witness') signature before a settlement could be made. As regards the method of delivery after settlement, the dealer would send a request in Chinese or English to the compradore's office. After he had signed it, and arranged about it, the delivery order book was used. No case could be delivered out of the godown without his signature. He had no transactions

with the Tysing firm during June. The last transaction they had with the Tysing firm was on 13th May. Since then they had had no transactions with the firm for the sale of beer, to their knowledge. He had never heard from the compradore about this alleged sale of beer at \$9.25. He had not sold any beer at \$9.25 in June. The last sold to Chinese dealers at that price was years ago. The lowest price at which this beer was sold to dealers, Chinese and European, during June was \$11.25. He had sold three cases to their own clerks for their mess at \$10.50 per case, in June; with that exception the price was \$11.25. It would have been impossible to entertain an offer of \$9.25 per case in June. He did not send a delivery order for 100 cases to the Tysing firm in June. He did sign a delivery order for the delivery of beer to Hing Cheong Loong at \$11.25 per case. He obtained a promissory note for that. His compradore was arrested on 19th July and charged with forgery. He was bailed out a week later and disappeared. Over 500 cases of beer were sold in June; these were sold at \$11.25, not at \$9.25. In May he sold some beer to the Tysing firm at \$11.25, and the latter paid that money.

Cross-examined—He had been in Hongkong since the end of March. Previous to that he was in Swatow. The compradore when he went out soliciting orders knew the price of the beer, but no transaction was completed without witness's signature. In former sales to the Tysing firm the money was collected through the compradore. The compradore was charged with the forgery of promissory notes. Some of his books were found to contain many false entries. He swindled the firm all round. The firm had securities for the absconding compradore; these consisted of property, but they had not got any money yet.

Mr. Hastings—Do you expect to get any?

Witness—I hope so.

Mr. Hastings—Is it \$100,000?

Witness—I expect it may be more. Shown the delivery order referring to the delivery of beer to Hing Cheong Loong, witness admitted that there was no receipt or chop upon it denoting that beer had been received; he did not of his own knowledge know that Hing Cheong Loong ever received it. The chop on the delivery order was the Chinese godownman's chop. The promissory note he had from Hing Cheong Loong was one of those supposed to be forged by the absconding compradore. He had nothing to show that they received the beer; in fact, Hing Cheong Loong denied that he had received it. That promissory note was being charged against the compradore.

This concludes the evidence.

The case was adjourned till Tuesday next at 10.15 a.m.

CRICKET.

H. K. C. C. v. UNITED SERVICES.

The result of this match, which was played on the 26th and 27th ult., was a great disappointment to the Club supporters, many of whom thought the Club team to be a strong one, and one likely to make a good fight against their powerful opponents. At no time, however, did the Club look like making anything of a game of it, and their backers can scarcely be said to have had even a "run for their money." The only satisfactory thing about the match, from the Club's point of view, was the fact that the bowling was distinctly better than usual. J. T. Dixon especially bowled very well, and Cooper and Pearce would appear to be quite above the average; in fact, if the bowling had only been backed up by better fielding—especially in the matter of holding catches—and batting of even average quality the match might well have resulted quite differently; as it was, however, the batting broke down completely and not one of the team can be said to have shown any form worth mentioning. For an apparently fairly strong batting side to be dismissed twice, on a goodish wicket, by bowling such as was brought against them, for a total of 194, does not say much for the capabilities of the Club batsmen at the present time, and it would appear that more regular practice at the nets would be beneficial. Owing to the late arrival of the Naval contingent, a start could not be made on Friday until 11.50. Garde beat

Ward in the toss but, contrary to expectation, he decided to send his opponents in first. It is doubtful whether anything was gained by this decision, but certainly, as the game went, nothing was lost by it. The Club began batting with Turner and E. W. Maitland, and Mackinlay and Fawcett started the bowling. With only 4 runs scored, Maitland was out and W. Dixon came in. He survived the first ball he received, but was smartly caught at the wicket off the second. Arthur followed and infused a little life into the game and hope into the hearts of his side by making two or three good hits. In the meantime, however, Turner had been bowled for 5, and J. T. Dixon took his place. When he had made 12, Arthur was clean bowled by Mackinlay and L. Maitland came in. It was at this stage of the game that the hopes of the Club supporters were raised, as Maitland and his partner for a time defied the attacks of their opponents. Maitland had a fair share of luck and Dixon was given "not out" from a doubtful looking catch after he had apparently given himself up for lost. With the score at 49, however, he was caught at the wicket for a well-played 20. Ward followed him and played with more than usual care; he soon lost his partner, who was bowled by Fitch, who had gone on in place of Fawcett. Pearce came in, but after making 8 was bowled by Mackinlay. Ward in the meantime played careful cricket and looked like staying in till the tiffin hour. He, however, hit out at the last ball bowled before tiffin, and was well caught in the long field by Smith for a patient 15. After tiffin, Lambie played well, but the whole side was out for the poor total of 102. The fielding of the Service men was good and Mackinlay bowled uncommonly well throughout the innings, taking 7 wickets for 45 runs. The United Services began batting with Fawcett and Garde, and Cooper and Powell bowled; when he had made 7 out of 11, Fawcett was bowled by Powell, and Pringle came in. He and Garde played good cricket and took the score to 75 before the latter was bowled for 41. He gave two chances to cover point; otherwise his innings was a capital one in every way. With Moore in, another stand was made and, though frequent changes were made in the bowling, the score was taken to 99 before Pringle succumbed to a fast one from Cooper. Pringle had played excellent cricket for his 35, and, so far as could be seen, gave no chance. Moore also played well, though he gave a palpable chance to the wicket-keeper. He was joined by Clark, who hit up 22 in a very short time; he, however, was badly missed by Powell in the long field, as also was Moore, and had it not been for these mistakes the total of the Service team would have been much smaller. Moore's 40 was nevertheless a capital innings and was invaluable to his side. None of the others did much and the innings eventually terminated at 4.45 for 167. The ground fielding of the Club men was better than usual, but the inability of some of them to hold catches was simply lamentable. J. T. Dixon bowled uncommonly well, taking 6 wickets for 35, and it was a pity that he was not put on sooner. Pearce bowled well and took 2 wickets for 14. Cooper is a decided acquisition as a bowler, and with a wicket to suit him should be much more effective. With the downfall of the last Service wicket, stumps were drawn for the day.

Play began at 11.35 on the 27th ult., the delay being this time caused by the late arrival of several members of the Club team. Ward and Turner opened the batting and Mackinlay and Fawcett again started the bowling. Ward cut the first ball sent down for 4 and made and uppish hit for 2; in Mackinlay's second over, however, he was caught at the wicket from a ball that popped up off the back of his hand. This was but the first of the many disasters that were to follow. The batting had been bad in the first innings, but it was worse in the second and only F. Maitland, Pearce and W. Dixon succeeded in making double figures. These three, indeed, were the only men to make any show at all; the least said about the rest, the better. E. W. Maitland distinguished himself by "bagging a brace" and others nearly succeeded in following his example. The whole side was out for a miserable 92, which, with the 102 of the first innings, gave their opponents only 28 runs to get. The fielding of the Service men was again

good and Fitch bowled with great success, taking 5 wickets for 24 runs.

Rimington and Pringle were sent in to make the necessary 28 runs, and J. T. Dixon and Pearce bowled. When he had made 11 out of 22, Rimington was stumped. The batsman did not appear to understand the decision, but there is no doubt that it was a correct one as he raised his right foot just as the ball fell from the wicket-keeper's hands on to the wicket. Moore joined Pringle, and between them they had no difficulty in knocking off the necessary 6 runs. The match thus ended in a hollow victory for the United Services by 9 wickets. The following are the full scores and analyses:—

H.K.C.C.		First Innings.		Second Innings.	
W. C. D. Turner, b Fawcett	5	b Fawcett	3		
E. W. Maitland, c Clark, b Mackinlay	0	c Garde, b Fitch	0		
William Dixon, c Garde, b Mackinlay	0	b Fitch	16		
H. Arthur, b Mackinlay	12	not out	3		
J. T. Dixon, c Garde, b Mackinlay	20	b Mackinlay	1		
F. Maitland, b Fitch	24	b Fitch	18		
A. G. Ward (Capt.), c Smith, b Mackinlay	15	c Garde, b Mackinlay	6		
T. E. Pierce, b Mackinlay	8	c Toulmin, b Fitch	21		
S. Powell, c Smith, b Toulmin	4	b Fitch	9		
P. T. Lamble, not out	10	c Smith, b Clark	7		
C. R. S. Cooper, c Moore, b Mackinlay	2	c and b Clark	5		
Extras	2	Extras	3		
Total	102	Total	92		

UNITED SERVICES.		First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Capt. Fawcett, R.A., b Powell	7				
R. B. Garde, R.N., b J. T. Dixon	41				
C. H. McPringle, R.N., b Cooper	35	not out	12		
G. Moore, R.N., b J. T. Dixon	40	not out	4		
Lt. Smith, R.A., c and b J. T. Dixon	11				
Lt. Toulmin, R.M.L.I., b J. T. Dixon	0				
Major Clarke, R.A.M.C., c Lamble, b Pearce	22				
A. W. Mackinlay, R.N., c J. T. Dixon, b Pearce	1				
Lt. Rimington, S.F., not out	0	st Arthur, b Pearce	11		
Lt. Mahan, R.N., c Pearce, b J. T. Dixon	1				
E. W. Fitch, R.N., c Ward, b J. T. Dixon	0				
Extras	9	Extras	4		
Total	167	Tl. (for one wicket)	31		

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

H.K.C.C.		First Innings.				Second Innings.			
		O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Mackinlay	17	3	45	7	10	1	34	2	
Fawcett	6	1	27	1	5	1	18	1	
Fitch	4	—	21	1	9.5	2	20	5	
Toulmin	6	4	7	1	—	—	—	—	
Clark	—	—	—	—	5	—	17	2	

UNITED SERVICES.

	First Innings.					Second Innings.			
	O.	M.	R.	W.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Cooper	15	2	42	1	—	—	—	—	—
Powell	10.2	2	35	1	—	—	—	—	—
W. Dixon	3	1	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lamble	4	—	21	—	—	—	—	—	—
J. T. Dixon	17	6	35	6	5.2	1	14	—	—
Pearce	6	1	14	2	5	1	13	1	—

As the match was finished so early—about 2.45—and the band of the Sherwood Foresters was on the ground, it was decided to play a scratch game. Ward and Fawcett therefore picked sides, and it was arranged that the time left for play should be equally divided and the side that made most runs in their time should win. This proved to be quite a successful arrangement, and an exciting game was the result. Rain delayed the start until 3.30, which left an hour and a half for play—three quarters of an hour's batting for each side. Fawcett's side batted first and ran up a total of 88 in the 45 minutes, but the whole side were out in the time, W. Dixon bowling with great effect and taking 5 wickets for 35. Ward's side succeeded in making 97 for only 6 wickets in their 45 minutes, so they won the game quite comfortably. Only ten men played on either side in this match.

By kind permission of the Admiral and Officers, the massed bands of the fleet played an excellent selection on Friday afternoon and, by the kindness of Colonel Wylley and Officers, the band of the 1st Sherwood Foresters, under

Bandmaster Bradley, did likewise on Saturday. The following are the scores and analyses of the scratch match:—

FAWCETT'S TEAM.	
W. C. D. Turner, b W. Dixon	15
H. Arthur, b Toulmin	10
J. T. Dixon, b W. Dixon	7
S. Powell, b Toulmin	4
Capt. Fawcett, R.A., b W. Dixon	0
C. H. McPringle, R.N., b W. Dixon	0
E. W. Fitch, R.N., c Moore, b Rimington	25
P. T. Lamble, b W. Dixon	12
A. P. Silver, R.N., b Rimington	1
G. A. Woodcock, not out	2
Extras	2
Total	83

WARD'S TEAM.	
G. Moore, R.N., b Powell	8
Lt. Bird, R.M.L.I., b Fitch	6
Lt. Toulmin, R.M.L.I., c Arthur, b J. T. Dixon	23
Wm. Dixon, b J. T. Dixon	6
Major Clarke, R.A.M.C., b Fawcett	15
Lt. Mahan, R.N., b Fawcett	2
Lt. Raymond, R.N.R., not out	13
Lt. Rimington, S.F., not out	8
G. P. Lammert, did not bat.	
A. G. Ward, did not bat.	
Extras	12
Total	97

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

CAPT. FAWCETT'S TEAM.		O.	M.	R.	W.
W. Dixon	7.4	—	36	5	
Toulmin	4	—	31	2	
Rimington	3	—	19	2	

WARD'S TEAM.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Powell	4	—	15	1	
Fitch	4	—	17	1	
J. T. Dixon	5	—	29	2	
Fawcett	4	—	24	2	

CRAIGENGOWER C.C. v. KOWLOON DEPOT, C.C.
The match between the above Clubs took place at the Happy Valley on the 27th ult. and was won by the former by 16 runs. Appended are the scores and analyses:—

CRAIGENGOWER C.C.	
M. H. Harteam, b Toy	3
J. D. Kinnaird, b Bridgett	12
I. E. Lammert, run out	12
R. Pestonji, b Toy	0
A. O. Brawn, b Toy	41
M. E. Asger, b Smith	3
R. Basa, c and b Smith	8
L. A. Rose, b Toy	7
J. L. Stuart, b Smith	9
J. P. Jordan, b Bridgett	1
A. E. Asger, not out	4
Extras	8
Total	108

KOWLOON DEPOT C.C.	
Coombe, run out	24
Furze-man, b Brawn	13
Lightfoot, b Brawn	4
Toy, c Brawn, b Pestonji	11
Bridgett, run out	20
White, b Brawn	1
Reeves, c Rose, b Harteam	1
Whiteaway, b Harteam	0
Jenkins, st Stuart, b Brawn	3
Smith, b Harteam	3
Williams, not out	0
Extras	12
Total	92

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

CRAIGENGOWER C.C.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Bridgett	6	—	40	2	
Toy	10	1	39	4	
Reeves	2	—	3		
Smith	5	1	22	3	

KOWLOON DEPOT C.C.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Prawn	13	1	41	4	
Pestonji	7	—	23	1	
Harteam	7	2	12	4	

Interviewed in Calcutta, Mr. John Barrett said President Roosevelt had offered him the appointment of Minister Plenipotentiary to Japan, and that he had never expressed any views on the subject of excluding Japanese from America.

At the meeting of the Singapore Legislative Council on the 19th ult. H.E. the Governor announced that he had concluded with His Highness the Sultan of Johore arrangements for the construction of the last link of the railway which would connect the Singapore end of the Colony with the other. It is therefore only a question of time now to complete the Malayan Peninsula Grand Trunk line.

FOOTBALL.

H.K.F.C. v. H.M.S. "GLORY"—SHIELD MATCH.

The opening match of the Shield series was played on the 27th ult. by the above teams on the H.K.F.C.'s ground. Rain fell heavily about 3.30, but at the time of starting there was not much more than a drizzle. The Club had the side that played H. S. Ocean the previous Saturday, the only change being that Clarke went outside and Cooke inside left. The stand was comfortably filled with spectators, and a fair crowd lined the ropes—principally Service people. The teams lined up as follows:—

H.K.F.C.—C. C. Hickling, goal; T. E. Pearce and J. W. C. Bonnar, backs; G. B. Macdonald, C. T. Kew, and R. Kerr, halves; W. R. Lemarchand, F. J. Libeaud, C. R. S. Cooper, G. A. Cooke, and W. W. Clarke, forwards.

H.M.S. *Glory*.—Morgan, goal; Urquhart and Sherbrook, backs; Wade, Crossman, and Watson, halves; Lane, Booth, Milford, Moore, and Cottell, forwards.

Referee—Mr. Triggs.

The *Glory*, having lost the toss, kicked off towards the pavilion end. The Club were the first to press and secured a corner, which Morgan cleared. A dangerous raid by Booth, Milford and Moore was cleared by Bonnar. The slippery state of the ground was against close passing, and the kick-and-rush style was followed. For pushing by the Navy men, the Club were awarded a foul, which was kicked out. The civilians had very hard lines in their next attempt, only managing a corner, which Clark made a mess of. The Club were having more than their share of the game at this period, and kept the Navy defending. A foul well up against Bonnar was kicked past by Urquhart. A bit of tricky play by the *Glory* left wing caused some fun but did not do the side any good. Bonnar, when hard pressed, kicked into the corner; the kick was cleared, and the Club rushing up, Cooper sent hard into Morgan's hands. From this narrow shave, the *Glory* attacked, and, Bonnar mis-kicking, Milford gained possession close in and scored. Hickling got his hands on the ball but could not hold it owing to its greasy state. The Club, however, were not long a goal down. They were awarded a foul, and Urquhart in trying to clear kicked the ball through his own goal. The Club had a splendid opportunity of gaining the lead a moment after, as from a foul charge they were awarded a penalty. Lemarchand took the kick but shot weakly past. The centre-half of the *Glory*, Crossman, again and again drew up the Club, and his placing was well judged. Pearce was laid out through a collision with an opponent, but was able to resume. A foul against Kew was not of much advantage to the Navy. At this period Morgan was the saviour of his side; three times in succession he cleared brilliantly. Milford in his eagerness handled, but the kick was not of material advantage. Lane and Booth carried the ball right down the wing; Lane centred and Milford sent into the corner of the net. The Club thereafter pressed and gained a corner, which was cleared. The *Glory* right wing then tried to repeat their previous performance. The centre kick went right across the goalmouth, Cottell rushed to meet it and kicked the ball against Hickling, from whom it rebounded to Moore, who kicked past. A brilliant run along the line and centre by Lemarchand proved abortive owing to the Club forwards not following up. A perfect bombardment of the home team's goal followed, the *Glory* having the worst of hard lines in not increasing their lead. They were playing the game best suited to the state of the ground, the forwards shooting for goal at every chance. Clark again kicked by from a corner, and immediately thereafter half-time was called, the scores standing:—

Glory, 2 goals, H.K.F.C., 1.

After a short interval, without the players leaving the field, the Club kicked off, but were immediately put on the defensive. Breaking away, the Club forwards were soon in the Navy territory. Cooper shot into goal, but put the ball into the goalkeeper's hands, who threw well out. A second attempt shortly afterwards was sent past. The third occasion produced a corner, which Lemarchand kicked by. Crossman was feeding his forwards splendidly, and occasionally having a try at goal "on his own." Libeaud dribbled up the wing and shot

hard into centre; without waiting to steady himself Cooper caught the ball in the air and sent it into the corner of the net, thus equalising the score. From the centre kick the *Glory* were within an ace of regaining the lead, and twice in succession had likely tries for the point, but they were unsuccessful. At this period the game was very uninteresting, and both sides seemed to be resting on their oars. The *Glory*, however, were not long in responding to the appeals of their supporters to "wake up." From a pass by Moore, Cottell put on the third goal, amidst loud cheers. An individual run and shot of Cooper's just missed the goal by a few inches. A period of mid-field play concluded in a foul for the *Glory*. The foul kick was sent hard into goal, and, the Naval forwards rushing the defence, it looked odds on another goal, which, however, did not come off. A mishap to Kerr stopped the game for a few moments. An exciting spell of pressure on Hickling's charge livened matters up considerably. The *Glory* supporters were much incensed by a wrong off side decision against their side. Bonnar changed places with Kew at centre-half for a time, but this move did not improve matters. From the stand the game was difficult to follow, owing to the unfavourable climatic conditions. The Club pressed and secured a corner; Clark took the kick, but sent to the *Glory*, who rushed up the field only to be sent back to act on the defensive again. The Club were making a final effort, but too late. The whistle sounded with the scores:—

Glory, 3 goals; H.K.F.C., 2.

There was not much to choose between the two teams. The *Glory* suited their game to the weather conditions, and therefore won. For the winners, Milford, Crossman, and Morgan were most conspicuous; while Cooper was the outstanding man on the other side. The *Glory* will play the winner of "H" Co., Sherwood Foresters v. 80th Co., R.A., in the second round.

H.K.F.C. v. "OLD CROCKS."

On the 29th ult. the H.K.F.C. played a team of "Old Cocks" at the Happy Valley. A heavy rain fell during the game. There were only a few spectators, and some of these were ladies, who attended doubtless to see the "Old Cocks" disport themselves. The "Old Cocks" team should have been as follows:—D. Wood, goal; H. Pinckney and Lieut. Donkin, R.N., backs; W. H. Howard, H. W. Looker, and A. Brooke-Smith, halves; A. R. Lowe, D. Atkinson, H. Hancock, J. D. Danby, and Comr. Kiddle, R.N., forwards. Lieut. Donkin and Comr. Kiddle did not turn up. The Rev. E. H. Good, R.N., took the latter's place. The Club team also was short. As arranged it should have been:—Holmes, goal; Barnes and Bonnar, backs; Macdonald, Kew and Caulfield, halves; Lemarchand, Libeaud, Cooper, Cooke, and Kerr, forwards. Kew did not put in an appearance, and the Club played without a goal-keeper.

Mr. Lane, H.M.S. *Glory*, was referee.

From the kick-off the first dangerous looking attack came from the "Cocks." Hancock got away down the centre towards the tenantless Club goal and passed across the wing to Lowe, but the latter, missing his footing on the slippery pitch, fell and the goal was cleared. Soon afterwards the play was transferred to the other end, and as the result of some scrimmage work in front of goal Wood was beaten by a swift shot from the Club centre Cooper had another try for goal before long but was defeated in his purpose by the watchfulness of Looker, who at half-back was playing a bustling game. Hancock several times carried his forwards well up the field. He himself had two long shots for goal. One went past; the other was turned just in time by Bonnar. Play was very fast and changed constantly from one end to the other. Just before the half-time whistle blew Macdonald got in a long shot which again beat Wood.

Half-time—Club, 2 goals; "Old Cocks," 1.

The Club opened the second half by pressing hard on the "Cocks" defence. Lemarchand and Libeaud carried the ball up the wing and the former centred. Cooper was waiting for the pass and sent in a hard shot, but Wood saved brilliantly. Then Hancock got away on one of

his fast runs down the centre and had a try, once more unsuccessfully, for a goal. The Club did not give the "Cocks" much breathing space before again assailing their defence. The "Cocks" goalkeeper was several times called upon to save and in despite of his stubborn custodianship he was once more beaten, the goal falling to a swift shot from Cooper. The "Cocks" showed no sign of despondency in the face of the long lead established by their opponents; they played on manfully and at length were rewarded with a goal, shot by Lowe. Twelve minutes later they increased their score by another point, the honour this time falling to Hancock. The game ended without further scoring. It should be mentioned that the two veterans, Dr. Atkinson and the Rev. Mr. Good played remarkably well, though both developed a limp before the finish.

Full-time score—Club, 3 goals; "Old Cocks," 2.

RIFLE MATCH.

A match between the Range Staff and the Royal Engineers was fired at Kowloon Range on the 23rd December. Scores:—

	200	500	600	Tl.
	yds.	yds.	yds.	
Col. Sergt. F. S. Cross	33	30	29	92
Sergt. Instr. F. Davis	25	33	31	89
Sergt. Instr. J. Griffiths	29	29	30	88
C. P. O. E. Denner	34	30	22	86
Lieut. Stansbury, R.N.	27	31	27	85
P.O. I. S. Chase	28	23	31	82
P.O. I. P. Allen	33	22	26	81
Pte. E. Evans	27	29	25	81

Average 85.5.

ROYAL ENGINEERS.

	200	500	600	Tol.
	yds.	yds.	yds.	
Staff Sergt. McSweeney	33	32	39	95
Sergt. Thornhill	32	32	30	94
Sapper McEwen	31	27	31	89
Major Baker-Brown	30	32	25	87
Sapper Palmer	29	28	23	80
L. Corpl. Robertson	29	28	22	79
Corpl. Angus	30	25	20	75
Sapper Colley	23	27	23	73

Average 84.00.

The Range Staff thus won by 12 points.

LOCAL AND DISTRICT EVENTS, 1902.

JANUARY.

- 1st—Weihaiwei taken over by the Colonial Office.—Taikoo Club Sports at Quarry Bay.
- 2nd—Chinese presentation to H.E. the Governor.
- 3rd—Chinese Court proceeded to Paoingfu.
- 4th—H.E. Sir Henry A. Blake went on leave.
- 7th—Chinese Court returned to Peking by rail.
- 13th—British steamer *Nanning* fired at on West River; Rev. C. E. L. Cowan shot through the leg.
- 15th—Foundation-stone of H.M. Naval Yard, Hongkong, laid.
- 20th—News received of Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart's appointment to the Weihaiwei Commissionership.
- 21st—Fire on s.s. *Uygo* in Hongkong Harbour.
- 22nd—Death at the Government Civil Hospital of Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Postmaster-General.
- 25th—Suicide in the Hongkong Hotel.—Concert by the S. Andrew's Society at the City Hall.
- 28th—Prof. Simpson's first report considered by the Sanitary Board.—Reception of the diplomatic corps by the returned Court at Peking.
- 30th—Anglo-Japanese Agreement signed.
- 31st—Diocesan School annual prize distribution.

FEBRUARY.

- 1st—Footbinding forbidden by Imperial decree.
- 3rd—Queen's College annual prize distribution.
- 5th—Armed robbery in Wellington Street.
- 7th—Hongkong Amateur Athletic Sports at Quarry Bay.
- 8th—China New Year's Day.
- 10th—Commodore Robinson, R.N., appointed to Hongkong.

18th—Marquis Ito in Hongkong, returning to Japan.

19th—Hongkong race-meeting, first day.

24th—Rajah of Patani seized by the Siamese.

22nd—A.O.C. smoking concert.

24th—Two plague deaths on the P. and O. s.s. *Ballaarat* at Woosung.—Oxford and Cambridge dinner at Hongkong Hotel.

27th—Important papers concerning education laid before the Legislative Council.—Empress Dowager's second audience for Legation ladies.

28th—Arrival of Mr. O. Chadwick, sanitary expert.

MARCH.

3rd—China Association meeting at Shanghai rejected Sir James Mackay's reported proposal for 15 per cent. import duty.

5th—Belilios School annual prize distribution.

11th—Mr. A. G. Ward's first subscription concert.—New Customs tariff at Newchwang.

14th—Death of Mr. Brockelmann from cholera at Canton.

15th—Final tie football Challenge Shield: "A" Co., R.W.F., won.

17th—Hongkong quarantined by Manila.—Dallas Co. at the Theatre Royal.—Judgement given in the *Tui Cheong-Skramstad* collision case.

19th—Senhor Horta e Costa, Governor of Macao, left Hongkong on his way home.

20th—Suicide of a German in Wyndham Street.

22nd—Farewell dinner to Mr. David Gillies at Hongkong Hotel.—Annual inspection of the H.K.V.C.

24th—Annual meeting of Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

27th—Stormy meeting of Watkins, Ltd., in Hongkong.

29th—Great fire in Queen's Road; 41 houses destroyed.—Presentations at the City Hall to Messrs. Gillies Fullerton Henderson, and Stewart Lockhart, past presidents of the S. Andrew's Society.

31st—Annual polo dinner.

APRIL.

2nd—Departure from Hongkong of Commodore Powell.

3rd—Hon. F. H. May's appointment as Colonial Secretary announced.—R.G.A. regimental sports at Happy Valley.

8th—Manchurian Convention signed at Peking.

9th—Murder of Mr. G. Rutherford by Chinese at Singapore.

10th—Professor Simpson's plague report and Public Works and Education Commissions' reports published in Hongkong.—Mr. Alec Marsh's farewell concert.

11th—Verdict in the *Peru* shooting case.

19th—Addresses and presentations to Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart by the Chinese community and the Legislative Council; banquet at the City Hall.—Opening of Kowloon School.

24th—Departure of Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart from Hongkong to take up the Commissionership at Weihaiwei.—Suicide of Mr. O. Wegener at Hongkong.

25th—Hongkong's Coronation programme decided on.—Prince Tsai Chen, China's envoy to the Coronation, in Hongkong.

28th—Prince Komatsu, Japan's Coronation envoy, in Hongkong.—Annual meeting of Hongkong branch, Navy League.

MAY.

1st—Dinner to Sir Francis Lowell, London School of Tropical Medicine, at Hongkong Hotel.

5th—*Kaifong* stowaway case at the Magistracy, Hongkong.

6th—Shanghai spring race-meeting began.

10th—Banquet from the Chinese community to Sir Thomas Jackson.

13th—Statement of the Diamond Jubilee Fund published in the *Daily Press*.

14th—Departure of Hongkong's Coronation contingent by the *Empress of Japan*.—Departure of Sir Thomas Jackson from Hongkong.

19th—103 plague cases in Hongkong since the 1st January.—Great fire in Wellington Street; 14 shops and houses destroyed.—Fire on the *Tingsang* in harbour.

27th—Death of Mr. David Gillies.

28th—Death of Lord Pauncefoot referred to in Supreme Court.

JUNE.

- 2nd—Sinking of the s.s. *Pakshan* in Hongkong Harbour.
 4th—Departure of Mr. T. H. Whitehead from Hongkong.
 5th—Election of Messrs. Shewan and Playfair as Unofficial Members of the Hongkong Legislative Council.
 7th—Departure of Dr. Hartigan from Hongkong.
 8th—Peace thanksgiving service in St. John's Cathedral.
 14th—Final distribution of China's war indemnity arranged by diplomatic corps at Peking.
 17th—*Tai Cheong-Skramstad* collision case appeal dismissed in Supreme Court, Hongkong.
 19th—S.S. *Dynomene* on fire in Hongkong Harbour.—Meeting of the Chinese Commercial Union to discuss the Public Health Bill.
 22nd—Chinese cruiser *Kai-chih* blown up near Nanking; 150 lives lost.
 23rd—Shanghai newspaper libel case (*O'Shea v. Cowen*) concluded.
 24th—Arrival in Hongkong of Sir H. S. Berkeley, new Attorney-General.
 25th—News of King Edward's illness received in Hongkong; special Council meeting held and telegram of condolence sent.
 26th—Special intercessional services for King Edward held in Hongkong.—Sir C. P. Chater's knighthood announced.
 28th—Children's Coronation tea.
 30th—V.R.C. annual meeting.

JULY.

- 2nd—Meeting of Hongkong Coronation Committee to decide on altered programme.
 4th—400 plague cases to date in Hongkong.
 5th—Presentation of Address to H.M. the King; unveiling of the statue of the Duke of Connaught at Hongkong.
 6th—Poisoning, ultimately resulting in 12 deaths, of boys at Chafoo School; supposed cause ptomaines, or else cholera.—Murder of a ricksha-coolie by a Frenchman at Singapore.
 9th—Dinner to Lo Feng-lu, K.C.V.O., at Connaught House.
 18th—Typhoon at Hongkong.
 24th—Monument in Happy Valley cemetery to deceased soldiers.
 26th—Decoration of a native officer, H.K.R., on the Cricket Ground.
 29th—Departure for home of H.M.S. *Terrible*.

AUGUST.

- 2nd—Violent typhoon; about 20 deaths at Hongkong.
 5th—Kowloon Brigade gymkhana at Happy Valley.—H.M.S. *Terrible* beat her former world's coaling record at Singapore.
 4th—First sod of King's Park, Kowloon, turned by Major-General Sir W. Gascoigne.
 9th—Coronation celebrations at Hongkong.
 10th—Torijima, one of the Bonin Islands, destroyed by submarine volcanic eruption.
 15th—Tientsin Provisional Government dissolved; Chinese resumed possession.—Murder of Messrs. Bruce and Lewis at Chengchow, Hunan.
 16th—Protocol of new Chinese tariff signed by the allied representatives.—S. & S. Bank half-yearly meeting.
 18th—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.'s half-yearly meeting; animated discussion re dividend.
 23rd—H.K. Polo Club gymkhana.
 30th—H.K. Water polo Shield final tie.

SEPTEMBER.

- 5th—Anglo-Chinese Commercial Treaty signed.
 6th—Presentation to Major-General Gascoigne in connection with the King's Park opening.
 9th—Return to Hongkong of H.E. Sir Henry A. Blake.
 11th—V.R.C. aquatic sports, 1st day.
 12th—Alleged theft of \$50,000 on the s.s. *Zafiro*.
 18th—Hongkong free of plague, after 10 days' clean bill of health.
 20th—Volcanic eruption from Mount Rigyo, Formosa.
 23rd—H.K.C.C. annual meeting.
 25th—H.K.F.C. annual meeting.
 29th—Annual general meeting of the Hongkong S. Andrew's Society.
 30th—Return of the Hongkong Coronation contingent.

OCTOBER.

- 3rd—Great fire at Amoy; about 500 buildings destroyed; one European killed.

- 6th—Annual meeting of the Hongkong branch of the China Association.
 7th—Franco-Siamese Convention signed.
 8th—Restoration to China of the first section of Manchuria by the Russians.—Death of H.E. Lin Kung-yi.—Arrival in Hongkong of the first detachment of the Sherwood Foresters, relieving the R.W.F.
 9th—Arrival of M. de Witte, Russian Minister of Finance, in Vladivostok.
 10th—Death of H.E. Tao Mu, Viceroy of the Two Kwang.
 11th—Gymkhana at the Happy Valley.
 17th—Kowloon Garrison athletic meeting.
 18th—Reception at Peking, from which H.B.M. Minister was absent owing to non-settlement of the Chengchow murder case.
 23rd—Departure for India of the Hongkong Regiment.
 27th—Large meeting of the China Association at Shanghai; amended resolution approving Sir J. Mackay's treaty carried.
 28th—Arrival from Peking of Senhor Castello Branco, Portuguese special envoy to China.

NOVEMBER.

- 1st—Hongkong put on two hours' water-supply.
 4th—1st day, Shanghai autumn race-meeting.
 9th—King's birthday observed at Hongkong.
 12th—Attack by Chinese pirates on the West River on Mr. Evans, constable at H. B. M. Consulate, Canton, from the effects of which he died.—Hongkong fired off in the Inter-port Rifle Match.
 13th—A.D.C.'s performance of *Liberty Hall* at the Theatre Royal, Hongkong.
 15th—Lin Kung-yi's obsequies at Nanking, attended by great number of foreign representatives.
 16th—Opening of the Hanoi Exposition.
 22nd—Japanese garrison evacuated Shanghai.
 28th—S. Andrew's Ball at Hongkong.

DECEMBER.

- 4th—Sudden death of Mr. A. S. Buck, U.S. Minister at Tokyo.
 5th—Attack on the Protector of Chinese at Singapore; two coolies killed by the Police.
 8th—Meeting of the shareholders of the Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co. rejected the directors' proposals for a new dock at Hungghom.
 10th—1st day of the Hongkong regatta.
 15th—Arrival in Hongkong of H.E. Sr. Arnaldo de Novaes Guedes Rebello, new Governor of Macao.—Dr. J. C. Thomson's lecture on "Mosquitoes and Malaria" before the Odd Volumes Society.
 18th—Presentation to Chinese College of Medicine by Major-General Gascoigne.
 20th—Part of German garrison left Shanghai.
 21st—Murderous affray between Chinese and Indians at Quarry Bay.—Shensi letter reports Tung Fu-hsiang with 10,000 men in Kansu province.
 22nd—British garrison evacuated Shanghai.
 23rd—Important building collapse enquiry at Magistracy; architects and contractors committed for trial.
 26th—Match on Cricket Ground, H.K.C.C. v. United Services.
 27th—German Post-office opened in British settlement, Shanghai.
 31st—Closing of a block of houses off D'Aguilar Street, Hongkong, on account of three plague cases.

THE RUMOURED MOVEMENT IN THE NORTH-WEST.

The *N.C. Daily News* of the 23rd ult. writes:—

The snake that was scotched, not killed, in 1900 is rearing its head menacingly again in the north-west of China, if the reports that reach us from foreigners conversant with what is going on in Kansu are correct, and there is certainly no inherent improbability in them. We mentioned yesterday that 4,000 imperial troops had been disbanded by the provincial Commander-in-Chief of Kansu, under orders from the Peking government—which means Yung Lu—and had at once gone over to Tung Fu-hsiang, which is not remarkable, as they were previously some of Tung Fu-hsiang's men. These men are well provided with modern arms, and Tung's agents are reported to be busy enrolling recruits throughout the north-west. Large quantities of war material

were, it is asserted, sent up the Han river for Hsian during 1900-01, while quick-firing guns and ammunition were sent up as lately as last October. It is added that Tung Fu-hsiang's 10,000 men, who are divided into twenty battalions of 500 men each, their camps being in the wilderness between Kuyuan and Ninghsia, are paid from imperial funds. It is believed that Tung Fu-hsiang has proclaimed Prince Tuan's son, the youth whom the Empress Dowager made Heir Apparent and then dismissed, as Emperor of China under the title of Tung Hsi, at the town of the Alashan Mongols, Ting-yuenying, two days north-west of Ninghsia. It is known that Pu Chun left Peking for Alashan some little time ago. The palace at Hsian occupied by the Empress Dowager after her flight from Peking is being got ready to receive the new Emperor Tung Hsi; while Tung Fu-hsiang's agents were to have seized Chêngtu, the capital of Szechuen, but this scheme was frustrated for the time by the arrival of the new Viceroy of Szechuen, Tsên Chun-hsuen.

It is believed that Yung Lu is privy to all this, though it is hard to imagine that he is a consenting party to the setting up of a rival Emperor of the West; but there have been, as we have said before, a number of indications that something serious is imminent. The proposed absorption by the Government of the telegraphs throughout the empire is a step that will strengthen the hands of the Government and may be disastrous to foreigners in the event of trouble. It seems certain that the Government is not supporting Viceroy Tsên in his efforts to put down disorder in Szechuen; and it is, to say the least, remarkable that China's leading statesman, Chang Chih-tung, has been removed from Nanking and has not been given any other post; one of the suppositions connected with him being that he will come to Shanghai to conclude the commercial treaties that are still being negotiated; and another that he is to be the virtual Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs at Peking or Tientsin. On the other hand, it is believed in the north that Yung Lu is working to get his son-in-law, Prince Chun, the Emperor's younger brother, made Heir Apparent, but it is more probable that should Prince Chun have a son, it is on that son that the doubtful boon of being Heir Apparent to the throne of China will be conferred.

With Liu Kung-yi dead and Chang Chih-tung practically dismissed from office, there may be a considerable change in the Yangtze Valley. Foreigners have confidence in Tuan Fang, the Acting Viceroy at Wuchang, but it is doubtful if he can afford to take the permanent appointment, and if he is a strong enough man for the position. He showed great moral courage in 1900 when he decided to disobey the orders he received from Peking, and to protect the missionaries in his province, and for this he will always be regarded with high admiration by foreigners in China, but it is still to be seen whether he has the strength necessary to maintain order in the Yangtze Valley. Wei Kuang-tao, the new Nanking Viceroy, is to a great extent an unknown man, and his ability to perform the task set him has still to be learnt.

Those who do not believe that any outbreak is to be feared at present explain that Tung Fu-hsiang is only acting in self defence, and that he has no mischievous intentions whatever. He has already received orders from Peking to lay down his arms, but declined, knowing that the next step would be that a force would be sent to seize him; and his army is only maintained to protect himself from renewed attempts to take him prisoner. We have not the material to determine where the truth lies among these various reports; that much apprehension and uneasiness exist, is certain.

The *Universal Gazette* states that Russia and China have been negotiating on the matter of allowing Russia to take charge of the custom houses in Manchuria. It is said that Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, upon hearing this, at once protested to the Government in strong terms against any such concession to Russia, stating at the same time that if the customs in Manchuria were to be taken charge of by Russia, then this territory would be lost to China too, and in addition to this loss of territory, other countries would ask for similar concessions in territories temporarily occupied by them.

CHINESE EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

With the great development in the last few months of Dalny—which if it does not yet occupy that position will soon be the chief Russian port in the Far East—a natural and corresponding development takes place in the over-sea traffic of Russia in these waters. The Chinese Eastern Railway Company has within the past year or two opened a valuable trade between Vladivostok and other Russian ports and Hankow and other Chinese ports. The Company has several fine steamers, but has not until lately been maintaining a regular service to Japanese ports. A great development of both passenger and freight traffic is, however, looked forward to, as regards the former especially, when the advantages of the Siberian route to Europe are better appreciated and the railway service improved. It is the intention of the Company to run a regular and frequent service between Japan and Russian ports with the beginning of next year, which will later form the connection between the Siberian Railway and Japan and be increased as the traffic requires. Every three weeks a steamer will leave Kobe for Vladivostok and every eighteen days for Port Arthur and Dalny.

Several fine ships of the line have already visited Kobe, including the *Manchuria*, said to be one of the best-appointed steamers in the Far East. The *Amur* is now in port discharging Chinese teakwood and rice. This vessel is only twelve months old, is 275 feet in length and of 2,348 tons. She is capable of accommodating fifty-six first-class passengers and many hundreds in the steerage. She is an exceptionally well-furnished steamer.

The *Amur* had a stormy passage from Hongkong to Nagasaki. She left the former port on the 6th inst. and two days later was overtaken by a storm which beat about the ship for three days with great fury. The first officer describes it as rather a hurricane than a typhoon and says it continued for three days, until a change in the wind to north-west caused it to abate. Though the damage done will be easily repaired the inconvenience caused was very great, as the saloon was flooded, and not only was the glass in the port-holes broken but the brass framework of the ports. A large quantity of water was shipped through the engine-room fanlight, the way's washing over the boat deck. It was a perfect hurricane, to use the words of the chief officer, but providing land is not near such weather can do little harm to a modern vessel. Although the hatches were battened down, the water found its way to the cargo and damaged that portion consigned to Nagasaki—500 bags of rice. The cargo for Kobe was undamaged, for a large part of it was undamageable, being teakwood from Canton.

The *Amur* is commanded by Captain Kurioff, and is officered and largely manned by Russians. Since leaving Port Arthur she has visited Hongkong, Vladivostok, Chefoo, Hongkong, Canton, Nagasaki, and Kobe. From this port she will leave to-day or to-morrow for Kiachau, Chefoo, and Port Arthur. Curiously enough, Russian does not seem to be the language in common use on the *Amur*, but German, while English is spoken as well by the officers.—*Kobe Chronicle*.

HONGKONG.

The wife of Mr. David Haskell, merchant, of this Colony, died at "Speranges," Peak Road, on the 27th ult., and was buried at Happy Valley on the 28th ult. Much sympathy in his great loss is extended to Mr. Haskell.

The number of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum during the week ending 27th ult. was 167 non-Chinese and 62 Chinese to the former and 36 non-Chinese and 2,370 Chinese to the latter institution.

Detected by the inmates whilst he was attempting to perpetrate a burglary in a Chinese dwelling-house in Queen's Road West, and anxious to avoid arrest, a Chinaman jumped over the verandah to the street and was killed by the fall.

The funeral took place at Happy Valley on the 27th ult. of Gunner Penfold, R.G.A., who committed suicide on the previous afternoon by jumping from the upper verandah in "C" Block. He had been in the Army for over eleven years.

As a result of investigations made by the police in connection with the murder of an Indian watchman at Quarry Bay on the 20th ult., a posse of police under Mr. F. J. Ladeley visited Shankiwan on the 27th ult., and it is said that something like twenty Chinese have been arrested in connection with the affair.

Though the Indian watchman over whom the Quarry Bay fracas first arose was on Tuesday fined \$10 by Mr. Kemp at the Magistracy, we believe that there are further developments to be expected. It has erroneously been stated that the watchman was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment; he was given the option of a fine, and the fine was paid.

Our contemporary *O Patriota* is responsible for the statement that Major J. J. Bragança, of the Macao police, whose conduct was very freely impugned by the Portuguese papers a few months ago, has been transferred to Mozambique.—The same paper contains a very ill-judged attack on the Portuguese Consul in Hongkong, Senhor Conselheiro Romano.

Seven European seamen from the British steamer *Tonbridge* were placed in the dock at the Harbour Master's office on Wednesday, five of them charged with disobeying orders and two with assaulting the chief engineer. The five were sentenced to three days' imprisonment and to forfeit two days' pay, and the other two to six weeks' imprisonment.

The twenty Chinamen arrested by the police on the 24th ult. on suspicion of being concerned in the outbreak which led to the murder of one Indian watchman and the injury of seven others, were brought up on two charges, one of murder and the other of attempted murder. They all pleaded not guilty, and were remanded for a week.

Captain G. Schlaikier of the German s.s. *Carl Diedrichsen*, which arrived here on the 29th ult. from Haiphong, Pakhoi and Hoibow, having left the last-named port on the 27th ult., reports that on Sunday morning, the 28th, he sighted the French s.s. *Quang Nam*, from Saigon, flying signals of distress and laying at anchor in Skito Bay, St. John's. The *Carl Diedrichsen* steamed for the distressed vessel and found that she was short of coal; she took one bag of mail matter, 76 Chinese passengers and 1 Japanese off the *Quang Nam* and proceeded to Hongkong.

In connection with the fracas which occurred at Kowloon on Saturday, the 20th ult. between some soldiers of the 10th Bombay Light Infantry on one side and the police and a few civilians on the other, we learn that the military authorities have taken measures for the punishment of the offenders belonging to the regiment. General regret must be felt among Kowloon residents at the unfortunate occurrence, which after all arose from trifling beginnings; for few regiments have done more to make themselves popular than the 10th Bombay, and from Colonel Birdwood downwards the officers and men are justly proud of the high rank to which the battalion has attained as a disciplinary force.

The British troopship *Clive* left on the 27th ult. for Calcutta with the 10th Jats on board. On the 28th ult. the U.S. monitor *Monterey* left for Canton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

From private advices received in Singapore, it appears that in November last the orders that the 1st Battalion Manchester Regiment were to leave South Africa for Singapore had been countermanded, and that they were not expected to leave for another twelve months.

The new steamer *San Francisco*, 350 tons net, built by Messrs. W. S. Bailly & Co., arrived at Manila on the 26th ult., four days out. She encountered rough weather on the way down and ran out of water. The *San Francisco* was built for Tan Anco, and will go into the coast-wise trade.

Judgment was given on the 12th ult. in the International Court, Bangkok, in the important action of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation v. Khoo Yung Prik in which the Bank sought to recover the sum of Tcs. 484,550.97 the amount of an overdraft. The Court decided in favour of the Bank for the full amount claimed. With reference to a mortgage on certain steamers and to the Court decided that such mortgage had no existence in the eyes of the law.

The surplus of the Coronation Fund at Tientsin, \$5,317, is to be handed to the Diamond Jubilee Hospital there towards the cost of an Isolation Ward.

The veteran missionary, Sinologue and scholar, the Rev. Dr. Joseph Edkins, has completed the 78th year of his age. Dr. Edkins has been upwards of 53 years in China.

L'Echo de Chine says that at the annual distribution of awards, at the Colonial Society's meeting in Paris, a large gold medal was granted to M. Doumer in honour of the work accomplished by him in Indo-China. M. Doumergue testified to the economic development of the colonies, declaring that work was necessary to enlarge prudently the empire, the duty of France being to measure her external efforts by the extent of the means left disposable by her internal necessities.

The Philippine Commission has passed a law prohibiting prize-fighting in the islands and placing a penalty of \$2,500, or a year in prison, on any person who engages in, instigates, encourages or does any act to further a contention or fight with or without weapons between two or more persons or a fight commonly called a ring or prize-fight, or who engages in a public or private sparring or boxing exhibition, with or without gloves at which an admission fee is charged or received, either directly or indirectly, or who sends or publishes a challenge or acceptance of a challenge for such a contention, exhibition or fight, or carries or delivers such a challenge or acceptance, or trains or assists any person in training or preparing for such a contention, exhibition or fight, shall be punished according to law as given above.

According to the *Japan Times*, a Japanese military officer has lately made a trip to Dolor in Mongolia, and while there succeeded in obtaining an interview with the Living Buddha. As expected, the Living Buddha turned out to be a young boy, but what was surprising was that the Buddha offered his guest Egyptian cigarettes and coffee, in rooms furnished in all respects in the European style. On being questioned how he had acquired all these foreign surroundings, the Living Buddha said they had been given him by some great friends, and if his guest wanted to see those friends, he would find them in the next room. The officer went in and found portraits of the Tsar and Tsarina of Russia; and the officer left, "musing over the special relations existing between the Lama believers and the Court of St. Petersburg."

The *Chefoo Express* remarks with much satisfaction:—"There is now a rumour, which it is to be hoped rests upon a more solid basis than most of its forerunners, to the effect that the troops at present stationed at Shanghai will be withdrawn from that port, and established at Weihaiwei, to be handy in the event of contingencies which may not be so remote as the sanguine are prone to imagine. If this contemplated move from Shanghai to Weihaiwei becomes an accomplished fact, it is a perfectly safe guess that the increase in the population of our neighbourhood will redound considerably to our benefit. Additional barracks will have to be erected, and a great increase in the supply of food-stuffs, clothing, and other necessities will follow, and there is no doubt that the bulk of this business will pass through the hands of the merchants in Chefoo." Private advices from Weihaiwei make no mention of this.

On the 17th ult. in the Osaka Appeal Court, judgment was delivered in the appeal made by Charles Clifford, an American citizen, against the decision of the Kobe Chiho Saibansho, by which he was sentenced on 21st August last to imprisonment for a term of four months with hard labour, a fine of 5 yen, and to be placed under police supervision for six months. The offences proved against him (says the *Kobe Chronicle*) were that of defrauding the Oriental Hotel Company of 41.50 yen, and of fraudulently obtaining a suit of clothes from Tong Cheong, a Chinese tailor, Kobe, and silk-embroidered wall hangings and other pictures from Tomoyeya, a Kobe silk store. The decision of the Kobe Court was quashed by the Appeal Court, a technical mistake having been made in the reasons given. The prisoner, however, was sentenced to imprisonment for the same term with labour, fined the same amount, and condemned to police surveillance for the same period as ordered by the Kobe Court.

The Rev. W. H. C. Dunkerley, M.A., Colonial Chaplain of Singapore, has been appointed by the Bishop of Singapore and Sarawak to be Archdeacon of Singapore in succession to the Ven. John Perham.

L'Echo de Chine says, with reference to the Siamese Convention, that since its signature, Siam has instituted a service of sanitation under the direction of French engineers; a bacteriological institute has been created with French doctors at its head; the Government has engaged French professors; it reserves to the French a vast concession in the tak-wood forests in the valley of the Meing; and it has subsidised a French company which assures a bi-monthly postal service between Bangkok and Saigon.

The reorganisation of the cruiser squadrons which is now taking place is a most important departure by the Admiralty. The home cruiser squadron is to consist of two divisions; the Mediterranean cruiser squadron, under Sir Pa'dwin Walker, will have as its crack ships the *Bacchante* and *Aboukir*, both of the 12,000 ton *Cressy* class; and to the China squadron, to which the *Cressy* herself is attached, the *Leviathan* will be added, and will be the flagship of the cruiser squadron, and on the Australasian Station there will be the *Spartiate* and *Europa*, both of 11,000 tons.

The hearing was resumed in the Koba Chiho, Suibansho before Judge Suyenaga and two Associate Judges, of the action brought by Mr. Robert Hughes against Sir Marcus Samuel and other partners of the firm of Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. The claim in this case was for a share of the profits to the amount of 15,566 yen and 3,118 yen of the opium business in Formosa carried on by Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. of Kobe and Yokohama. Mr. Hirata appeared for the plaintiff, but the defendants did not appear and were not represented in Court, and the case was proceeded with in default of the defendants. Mr. Hirata having stated the subject matter of the claim and explained the petition, judgement was given for the full amount claimed.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 18th December.—Re-reels.—The small stock has been liquidated during the earlier part of the fortnight at \$840 for Nos. 1 and 2, and there is now scarcely anything obtainable, except at very long delivery. Filatures.—Transactions have been only moderate during the fortnight under review, buyers having been unable to follow the steady advance asked by holders for the little stock they have on hand. Recent transactions include: Kwong Sung Cheong 1 1/13 drs. at \$1,070, Sun Yue Lun 1 1/13 drs. at \$1,060, On Wo Hing 9 1/11 drs. at \$1,120, Hop King Wo and Yuk Wo Hing 10 1/12 drs. at \$1,095, Cheong Hing and Chung Sun Hing 13 1/15 at \$1,021. There was a very good demand for coarse sizes and settlements have been made at \$930 for Wai King Wo 18 2/22 drs., \$950 for Yee Woe Cheong 16 1/18 drs., \$917 1/2 for Yu Ye Lun 2 1/24 drs. In Best 3me order prices paid are: \$990 for 10 1/12 drs., \$925 for 11 1/13, 13 1/15, and \$875 for 14 1/18 drs. Short-reels.—Have ruled very quiet, buyers having retired from the market. The only transactions heard of are: Wing Wo Hang 14 1/16 \$970, Yee Lun On 14 1/16 \$960, How Sing Loong 14 1/16 \$970. Waste.—Has been in very active demand with the result of about 800 piculs Steam Waste being bought at advancing rates. The bulk of the business done is on the basis of \$145 for Extra Selected opened and \$112 for Extra Extra opened. Owing to the activity, native speculation in the interior has driven prices up to a prohibitive level and dealers are asking now \$150 for higher grade.

CAMPOR.

HONGKONG, 2nd January.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 2nd January.—No arrivals having been reported, the prices are declining.
Shekloong, No. 1, White.....\$8.15 to \$8.2 1/2 p.c.
Do, " 2, White..... 7.70 to 7.75 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ... 6.10 to 6.15 "
Do, " 2, Brown ... 5.90 to 5.95 "
Swatow, No. 1, White..... 8.05 to 8.10 "
Do, No. 1, White..... 7.60 to 7.65 "
Do, " 1, Brown ... 5.80 to 5.85 "
Do, " 2, Brown ... 5.65 to 5.70 "
Fookchow Sugar Candy12.15 to 12.20 "
Shekloong " 9.65 to 9.70 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 2nd January.—The advance in prices continues. Holders being firm.

Saigon, Ordinary\$3.40 to 3.45
" Round, Good quality 4.70 to 4.75
" Long 4.90 to 4.95
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 3.45 to 3.50
" Garden, " No. 1 4.25 to 4.50
" White 5.05 to 5.10
" Fine Cargo 5.25 to 5.30

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 3rd January.—Small business at a slight rise in superior grade. Stock, about 2,300 bales.

Bombay, 22.00 to 23.00 picul,
Bengal (New), Rangoon, } 22.50 to 23.00 "
and Dacca, }
Shanghai and Japanese, 26.50 to 27.50 "
Tungchow and Ningpo, 26.50 to 27.50 "
Sales:—225 bales.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 2nd January:—The course of our market during the last fortnight has been quite erratic and puzzling. The fluctuations on the other side have not been reflected in our market here, which has been controlled by purely local conditions. Recently, with very large indents from Shanghai, advancing prices in Bombay and a steady exchange, values were slow to move, and this interval, with a considerable subsidence in the Northern demand, greater depression in the interior, and in smaller movements than in October and November, prices have advanced 50 cents to two dollars per bale. In the absence of any satisfactory explanation we can only presume that prices have been affected more by manipulation than by any consideration of demand or supply.

No. 6s and 8s. have been very quiet throughout with small sales at close.

No. 10s. continued steady during the early portion of the interval; subsequently moderate orders from Shanghai combined with speculative inquiries from local dealers have had the effect of advancing prices 50 cents to \$1 1/2 per bale in special spinings.

No. 12s. steady at quotations, but little doing. No. 16s. show the continuance of a minimum of demand and some occasional rise in price.

No. 20s. in good speculative inquiry owing to comparative cheapness and denuded stocks. Prices may be quoted \$1 to \$2 higher.

Local Manufacture.—A somewhat firmer feeling prevails in the market for local mill products and sales of about 1,200 bales have transpired on the basis \$98 for No. 1's and \$100 to \$111 for No. 12s, prices showing an advance of fully one dollar.

Japanese Yarn.—Quiet but firm at late rate, business of the interval being sales of about 500 bales Settsu No. 20s. at \$125 to \$126.

Raw Cotton.—Despite advances on the other side and smaller shipments, Indian descriptions are without enquiry and with the quieter feeling sellers are easier in their rates. Sales of the fortnight amount to only 200 bales Bengal at \$25. Exporters to Japan have been in evidence and shipments of about 700 bales Superfine Bengal to Kobe are reported. Nothing doing in China Cotton. Estimated stock 1,600 bales Bengal and 500 Chinese. Quotations are \$22 to \$24 Indian and \$26 to \$27 Chinese.

Exchange on India shows little or no fluctuations and closes to-day weak at Rs. 218 1/2 for T/T and Rs. 218 1/2 for Post. On Shanghai 72 1/2 and on Japan Yen 76 1/2 for \$100.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 22nd ultimo, viz:—

India.—Total sales 8,525 bales, comprising 1,710 bales No. 10s., 560 bales No. 12s., 1,114 bales No. 16s. and 141 bales No. 20s., prices inducing to be rather easier. Estimated unsold stock about 48,000 bales.

Japanese.—Total sales about 12,000 bales on the basis of Tls. 87 to 91 for No. 1's and Tls. 90 to 94 for No. 20s., closing firm.

Local.—Total sales about 2,500 bales at Tls. 78 for No. 10s., Tls. 85 for No. 14s. and Tls. 85 1/2 for No. 20s., closing steady.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG 2nd January.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ...\$ 86.00 to \$130.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24, ... 114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24, ... 120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32, ... 136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42, ... 155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

per piece.
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs. 2.30 to 2.40
7 lbs. 2.45 to 2.70
8.4 lbs. 3.30 to 3.92 1/2
9 to 10 lbs. ... 4.00 to 5.50
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.8 1/2 to 3.9 1/2
58 to 60 " 3.45 to 3.75
64 to 66 " 4.01 to 5.50
Fine 5.75 to 8.00
Book-folds 4.75 to 7.30
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ... 0.78 to 1.50
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y. 2.00 to 2.30
7lbs. (32 ") " 2.35 to 2.75
6lbs. (32 ") Mexs. 2.40 to 2.55
7lbs. (32 ") " 2.95 to 3.50
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) 3.30 to 3.90
Drills, English—40 yds., 13 1/4 } 4.75 to 7.30
to 14 lbs. }

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1 1/4 to } 1.50 to 4.85
8 lbs }

BROCADES—Dyed

DAMASKS—

per yard
Chintzes—Assorted — to —
Velvets—Black, 22 in. 0.27 to 0.60
Velveteens—18 in. 0.23 to 0.28
per dozen
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.30 to 5.00
WOOLLENS—
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. 0.65 to 2.25
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths 1.25 to 3.00
per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs. 6.85 to 8.25
Assorted 7.00 to 9.40
Camlets—Assorted 15.50 to 34.00
Lastings—30 yd., 31 inches } 12.50 to 17.00
Assorted
Orleans—Plain 10.00 to —

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. 0.65 to 0.80
Fine quality, 1.40 to 2.10
per pair

METALS—

per picul
Iron—Nail Rod 4.70 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng. 4.70 to —
Swedish Bar 4.75 to —
Small Round Rod 5.10 to —
Hoop 1/2 to 1 1/2 in., 6.40 to —
Wire, 16/25, 9.20 to —
Old Wire Rope 3.50 to —
Lead, L.B. & Co. and Hole Chop 8.40 to —
Australian 8.40 to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz. 41.00 to —
Vivian's 14/20 oz. 41.00 to —
Elliot's 14/20 oz. 41.00 to —
Composition Nails 61.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs, 39.00 to —
Tin 88.00 to —

box, per
Tin-Plates 8.30 to —
per cwt. case
Steel 1/2 to 1 6.50 to —

SUNDRIES—

Quicksilver 18.00 to —
per box.
Window Glass 5.75 to —
per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil 3.00 to —

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 2nd January.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer 1/7
Bank Bills, on demand 1/7 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 1/7 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 1/7 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight 1/7 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 1/7 1/2

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand 1.99 1/2
Credits, 4 months' sight 2.03 1/2

ON GERMANY.—

On demand 1.62 1/2

ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand 38 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight 39 1/2

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer 118 1/2
Bank, on demand 118 1/2

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer 118 1/2
Bank, on demand 118 1/2

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight 72 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight 73

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand 76 1/2 p.c. pm.

ON MANILA.—

On demand 1/2 p.c. pm.

ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand 1/2 p.c. pm.

ON BATAVIA.—

On demand 95 1/2

ON HAIPHONG.—
On demand 1½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—
On demand 1 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—
On demand 65½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate ... \$19.54
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael \$64.20
BAR SILVER per oz. 22½

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—Pyrrhus (str.), Kawachi Maru (str.), Oopack (str.).
FOR LONDON.—Valetta (str.), Telemachus (str.), Kawachi Maru (str.), Prometheus (str.), Peleus (str.), Antenor (str.), Glenlochy (str.), Bombay (str.).
FOR LIVERPOOL.—Tydeus (str.), Dardanus (str.).
FOR AMSTERDAM.—Oopack (str.).
FOR MARSEILLES.—Pyrrhus (str.), Oopack (str.), Kawachi Maru (str.), Laos (str.).
FOR BREMEN.—Konig Albert (str.).
FOR HAMBURG AND HAMBURG.—Wursberg (str.), Nurnberg (str.), Silesia (str.), C. Ferd. Laci (str.).
FOR GENOA.—Tydeus (str.).
FOR ODESSA.—Hermann Lerehe (str.).
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Tremont (str.), Shinano Maru (str.), Tosa Maru (str.), Pakling (str.).
FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of China (str.), Tartar (str.).
FOR NEW YORK.—Mogul (str.).
FOR PORTLAND (Or.).—Indravelli (str.).
FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—Eastern (str.).
FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, AND CALCUTTA.—Natasang (str.).

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 2nd January, 1903.—Business during the past week has been interfered with by the New Year holidays, and only a few transactions have been recorded.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai continue firm with sales at \$662½ and \$663, and further buyers at the latter rate. The latest London quotation is £63.10s. Nationals are unchanged at \$26 sellers.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions continue in request at \$460. China Traders are offering at \$58 sellers. Cantons are unchanged at \$167½, but with a hardening tendency. Other stocks under this head are unaltered and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have tumbled to \$335 sellers, and shares could probably be obtained at \$330. Chinas, after a forced sale at \$83, are firmer again with sales and further buyers at \$84.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have improved to \$36 buyers, after fair sales at this rate and \$35½. Indo-Chinas are quiet at \$86 with probable sellers. China Manilas have been booked at the reduced rate of \$24. Duglases are firmer with buyers at \$42. Star Ferries are firmer and can now be placed at \$23½ (old) and \$13½ (new). Shell Transports are weak at £1.7s. 6d.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have improved to \$89 cash buyers, and sales at \$90 for the settlement delivery. Luzons are neglected at \$12½ sellers.

MINING.—Punjoms are weak with sellers at \$24. Raubs have sold at \$6½ and can now be placed at \$7. Other stocks are unchanged.

DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.—Hongkong & Whampoa Docks sold during the early part of the week at \$210 and \$212½ but have since weakened and shares are now offering at the higher rate. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have been disposed of at \$88 and \$86½ and close steady at the former quotation. New Amoy Docks are unchanged.

LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands are weaker with sellers at \$186. Kowloon Lands are wanted at the improved rate of \$31½. West Points have sold at \$57 and some shares are obtainable at this figure. Humphreys Estate is steady at \$12. Hongkong Hotels can be procured at \$140. Oriente Hotels are weak with sellers at \$37½.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkong Cottons are easier with some sellers at \$17. The Northern stocks are unchanged.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have improved to \$21 with sales and buyers.

Ropes have been booked at \$120. Fenwick's have sold and can still be procured at \$50. Tramways are quiet at \$327 ex the dividend of \$18 per share for 1902 paid on the 3th ult. Steam Water-Boats can be procured at \$11.65 cum the call of \$3 per share payable to-day. Providents are on offer at \$10 with buyers at \$9.85. Watkins can be placed at \$7½. China Light and Powers are wanted at \$10. Cigar stocks are quite neglected.

MEMO.—China Borneo Company, Limited, extraordinary general meeting on the 14th inst.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$663, buyers { London, £63.10.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	28	\$26, sellers
B. Shares	28	\$26, sellers
Foun. Shares	21	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	21	\$1, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$35.
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$27, sellers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$10, buyers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$10, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$89, buyers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$500, sellers
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$3, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 40.
Laou Kung-Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 44.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 160.
Hongkong	\$100	\$17, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$11, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$0, sales & sellers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$21, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$13.10, sales & buy.
H. H. L. Tramways	\$5	\$6.65, sales
H. H. L. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd.	\$100	\$327, ex div.
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$11.65, cum call
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$140, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$25	\$240, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$88.
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$120, sales
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$167½.
China Fire	\$20	\$84, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$58, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$33, sellers
North China	\$25	Tls. 177½.
Straits	\$20	\$1, nominal
Union	\$50	\$460, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$133.
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$186, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$12.
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$31½, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$57, sales & sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$121, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$14½.
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$60, sellers
Jebeu	\$5	\$14, sellers
Punjom	\$10	\$24, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	75 cents, sellers
Raubs	18	\$7, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$40.
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$37½, sellers
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$9½, buyers
Robinson Co. Piano, Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$24, sales
Douglas Steamship	\$50	nominal
H. Canton and M.	\$50	\$42, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	\$15	\$36, buyers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	\$10	\$86.
Star Ferry	\$1	\$21.7s. 6d.
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$10	\$23½, buyers
United Abestos	\$5	\$13½, buyers
Do.	\$4	nominal.
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$8½, sellers
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$155.
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$22, buyers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Shanghai 24th December (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). A considerable business has been done during the week, the market being very irregular owing, in a large measure, to the clearing up for the large settlement on the 29th and 30th. Profits on short sales have been eagerly taken as advances on shares are steadily refused by the Banks. BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have improved slightly locally, business having been done at \$689 ex 71½ and at clearing at \$662½ ex 71½. National sales at \$27. MARINE INSURANCES.—The only business quoted in these is in North Chinas at Tls. 180. Unions are wanted at \$460. Traders off ring at \$58. FIRE INSURANCE. No business reported. SHIPPING.—Indo-Chinas. A considerable business has been done during the week at Tls. 61 and Tls. 61½ for settlement and Tls. 63½ and Tls. 64 and Tls. 64½ for March delivery. Shares are to-day wanted at Tls. 61½. SUGARS.—Chinas are wanted at \$85. MINING.—Chinese Engineering and Mining Co.'s shares have changed hands for the settlement at Tls. 8.10 and Tls. 8 and Tls. 8.20. Shares are enquired for forward delivery. Raubs are wanted at \$6 and Punjoms at \$2½. DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd's shares fell to Tls. 180, at which rate a considerable number of shares changed hands. Rates subsequently steadied a little and shares changed hands at Tls. 182½ and Tls. 185 for settlement and 178 ex dividend of Tls. 7 just paid and Tls. 18½ for April. There are sellers at Tls. 178. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares have changed hands at Tls. 307½, Tls. 310 and Tls. 312½ for cash. The market is steady at the latter rate. LANDS.—All stocks under this heading are unchanged. Shanghai Lands: Payment for new issue is due on or before 31st inst. INDUSTRIAL.—Shanghai Gas old cum new shares changed hands at Tls. 117½, Ewo Cotton Tls. 40 and Internationals at Tls. 40. Laou-kung-mows are offered at Tls. 44. TUGS AND CARGO BOATS.—Business has been done in these at Tls. 290 cum and Tls. 285 ex dividend. The Company paid their 3rd interim dividend of Tls. 5 on the 20th inst. MISCELLANEOUS.—Maatschap, etc., in Langkat. Shares have changed hands at Tls. 157½, 160, 163, 164 for cash and Tls. 170 for April. Central Stores have been dealt in at \$26, Hotel d's Colonies 16½, Weeks \$24, Hall & Holtz \$35 and Telephones at Tls. 62. LOANS.—Shanghai Lands 6 per cent. Debentures Tls. 103 and Gas 6 per cent. at Tls. 103.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 2nd January.—There is no improvement to report in any direction. From Saigon to Hongkong, 8 cents per picul last; to Philippines and Java, no demand; to one port Japan, 26 cents per picul has been paid for January, 33 cents for February and 36 cents per picul for March loading. From north coast Java to Hongkong, 17½ cents per picul last (dry sugar). Coal freights have further declined. From Moji to Hongkong, \$2; to Singapore, \$2.05 last and \$2.70 offering; to Manila, \$3.50 per ton last. The following are the settlements:—

Wineland—Danish steamer, 1,668 tons, Mororan and/or Otaru to Hongkong, \$3 per ton.

Deuteros—German steamer, 1,001 tons, Moji to Swatow, \$2.25 per ton.

Rapton—British steamer, 1,852 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Singapore, \$3 per ton.

Clitus—British steamer, 1,588 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Singapore, \$2.80 per ton.

Petrarch—German steamer, 1,252 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Singapore, \$3.65 per ton.

Hermann Menzell—German steamer, 1,104 tons, Karatzu to Manila, \$3.50; if Hoilo or Cebu, \$4.25 per ton.

Heinrick Menzell—German steamer, 989 tons, Hongay to Hongkong, \$1.80 per ton.

Haldis—Norwegian steamer, 1,071 tons, Nanchow and/or Tonghoi to Penang, 20 cents per picul.

Saphir—Norwegian steamer, 861 tons, Saigon to Kobe, 36 cents; if Yokohama, 37 cents per picul (March).

Nanyang—German steamer, 932 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 7½ cents per picul.

Emma Luyken—German steamer, 1,109 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 10 cents per picul.

A steamer, three ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 17½ cents per picul.

Tailes—German steamer, 828 tons, two ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 17½ cents per picul (dry sugar).

An Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer, Saigon to one port Japan, 36 cents, two ports, 88 cents per picul (March loading).

An Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer Saigon to Yokohama and/or Kobe, 33 cents, one port, 35 cents per picul two ports (February loading).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

December—ARRIVALS.

26, Hoihao, French str., from Haiphong.
 26, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 26, Hongkong Maru, Jap. str., from S. F. cisco.
 27, Bjorn, Norw. str., from San Francisco.
 27, Hsieh-Ho, Chinese str., from Canton.
 27, Hokoku Maru, Japanese str., from Chefoo.
 27, M. Eickmiers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
 27, Nijni Novgorod, Rus. str., from Odessa.
 27, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
 27, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
 27, Taiyuan, British str., from Australian.
 27, Tingsang, British str., from Canton.
 27, Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., from N'saki.
 28, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
 28, Doris, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
 28, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
 28, Kansu, British str., from Canton.
 28, Manila, British str., from Antwerp.
 28, Pekin, British str., from London.
 28, Taichow, German str., from Bangkok.
 28, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.
 28, Namsang, British str., from Calcutta.
 29, Beulawers, British str., from London.
 29, Chinkiang, British str., from Canton.
 29, Hsinohi, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 29, Machew, German str., from Bangkok.
 29, Rainbow, U.S. gunboat from Manila.
 29, Shakano Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 29, Cheangchow, British str., from Singapore.
 29, Glenfalloch, British str., from Singapore.
 29, Simongan, Dutch str., from Kobe.
 30, Haiphong, French str., from Haiphong.
 30, Hermes, Norw. str., from Chinkiang.
 30, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 30, Kweiyang, British str., from Amoy.
 30, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 30, Lyeemooon, German str., from Canton.
 30, Pionier, German str., from Shanghai.
 30, Shimosa, British str., from New York.
 30, Strassburg, German str., from Shanghai.
 30, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 30, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
 30, Yushun, Chinese str., from Canton.
 30, Britomart, Brit. gunboat, from Bangkok.
 30, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
 31, Ambria, German str., from Hamburg.
 31, Ariake Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 31, China, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
 31, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 31, Else, German str., from Haiphong.
 31, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
 31, Guthrie, British str., from Saigon.
 31, Haiching, British str., from Foochow.
 31, Hailan, French str., from Hoihow.
 31, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
 31, Lcosok, German str., from Bangkok.
 31, Nanyang, German str., from Saigon.
 31, Pronto, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
 31, Quangnam, French str., from Saigon.
 31, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
 31, Shaohsing, Brit. str., from Chingwangtau.

January—

1, Albion, British battleship, from a cruise.
 1, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
 1, Pakhoi, British str., from Canton.
 2, Bombay Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 2, Changchow, British str., from Canton.
 2, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Canton.
 2, Picciola, German str., from Canton.
 2, Saito Maru, Japanese str., from London.
 2, Valetta, British str., from Shanghai.
 2, Chowfa, German str., from Bangkok.

December—DEPARTURES.

27, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'chin tz.
 27, Korea, Russian str., for Shanghai.
 27, Kwongsanz, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Mongkut, German str., for Bangkok.
 27, Nijni Novgorod, Rus. str., for P. Arthur.
 27, Sado Maru, Japanese str., for London.
 27, Savoia, German str., for Canton.
 27, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 27, Wuhu, British str., for Kobe.
 27, Yawata Maru, Japanese str., for Naosaki.
 27, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 28, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 28, Daphne, German str., for Amoy.
 28, Hikosan Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 28, Tingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Albion, British battl. ship, for practice.
 29, Hsieh-ho, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 29, Saphir, Norwegian str., for Shanghai.
 29, Tonkin, French str., for Europe.
 30, Adria, British str., for London.

30, Catherine Apcar, Brit. str., for Calcutta.
 30, Chingtu, British str., for Australia.
 30, Elita Nossack, Ger. str., for Chinkiang.
 30, Esang, British str., for Shanghai.
 30, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 30, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 30, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
 30, Kalgan, British str., for Ningpo.
 30, Lods, Norwegian str., for Karatu.
 30, Quarta, German str., for Saigon.
 30, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
 30, Shinano Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
 30, Tremont, British str., for Tacoma.
 30, Wongkut, German str., for Swatow.
 31, Anping Maru, Jap. str., for Coast Ports.
 31, Athenian, British str., for Vancouver.
 31, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 31, Cheangchow, British str., for Amoy.
 31, Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.
 31, He, mes, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 31, Hinsang, British str., for Hongay.
 31, Hongkong Maru, Jap. str., for S. F. cisco.
 31, Kweiyang, British str., for Samarang.
 31, Lyeemooon, German str., for Shanghai.
 31, Mailla, British str., for Shanghai.
 31, Pionier, German str., for Canton.
 31, Strassburg, German str., for Hamburg.
 31, Yushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.

January—

1, Benlawers, British str., for Nagasaki.
 1, Bjorn, Norwegian str., for Singapore.
 1, Brunhilde, German str., for Sandakan.
 1, Chinkiang, British str., for Shanghai.
 1, Doris, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
 1, Haiphong, French str., for Haiphong.
 1, Pekin, British str., for Kobe.
 1, Kumano Maru, Japanese str., for Australia.
 1, Marie Jebben, German str., for Singapore.
 1, Taiyuan, British str., for Kobe.
 1, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 1, Thea, German str., for Wuhu.
 1, Woosung, British str., for Shanghai.
 2, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Hoihao*, from Haiphong, Mr. Morrison.
 Per *Taiyuan*, from Australia, Mr. and Mrs. Davis and Master Davis, Messrs. Long Reynolds and Wright.
 Per *Rohilla Maru*, from Manila, Mrs. M. de Zarzas, Mr. and Mrs. Bissell, Capt. and Mrs. Howell, Major Grippith, Messrs. J. W. Osborne, C. D. French, H. M. McReo, E. S. Reader, A. Landry, R. Saito, Capeaody, F. E. White, M. E. Mager and Mourivo.
 Per *Hongkong Maru*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. D. Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Leeds, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Carter, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Schroeder, Mr. and Mrs. G. du Bois, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Hill, Mrs. Clarke Salmon, Mrs. M. E. Cook, Misses H. M. Gowing and Hawes, Rev. J. O. Denning and family, Lieut. C. F. Birney, Commdr. Barry, U.S.N., Mr. Shanks and family, Messrs. W. W. Curtis, A. Rosenwald, H. C. McCleer, F. H. Sargent, H. M. Garland, J. Auley, A. Fehr, H. T. Safford, T. M. Johnson, Cecil Bont, A. G. Webster and W. Anderson.
 Per *Hailoong*, from Swatow, Mr. A. G. Wood.
 Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mrs. J. B. Currey, Mrs. A. M. Clay, Capt. McCracken, Messrs. Boyd and J. G. Williams.
 Per *Manila*, from Hongkong, from London, Capt. and Mrs. E. C. Fitz Williams and child, and Mr. C. Cottier; from Singapore, Mr. Barrett; for Shanghai, from London, Mrs. Poole and infant and Miss Willis; for Yokohama, from London, Mrs. Bathgate.
 Per *Tonkin*, from Hongkong, from Nagasaki, Mr. Palsdorff; from Shanghai, Lieut.-Col. Mangoor Ahmad Khan, Messrs. J. Tetsch, J. Schregardus, Schlumberger, K. Ania, Karl Oldoerp, Jonah Isaac, W. W. Roland, H. James, J. Favre and R. v. Scoccia; for Saigon, from Shanghai, Mr. Bedouin; for Singapore, from Yokohama, Capt. Stevenson; from Nagasaki, Messrs. R. Danno, T. Matsushima, H. Miyamoto, Ikichi Kurasaki and Kusano; from Shanghai, Misses Hinchley and Blake and Mr. J. Chardonnaner; for Bombay, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Counsell, Messrs. R. Dalton and P. L. Pittmann; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Mrs. Frique, Miss Joubert, Sisters Bedel and

Roger and Mr. Steenacker; from Shanghai, Messrs. Dansette, Fabresse, Chapeaux, Kingsley, Wladimir Sobiestchanski and Henry.

Per *Namsang*, from Calcutta, &c., Mr. Hamilton Forbes.

Per *Woosung*, from Shanghai, Capt. Wittms.

Per *Strassburg*, from Shanghai, Mr. Kuttris.

Per *Kumano Maru*, from Yokohama, &c., Mr. and Mrs. F. Jordan.

Per *Thales*, from Swatow, Messrs. A. Vandelol, da Cruz and Rayavell.

Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Mrs. Barber, Mrs. Penrose, Mr. and Mrs. R. Francisco, Misses Gelman, Nelson, Townsend and Tabbats, Messrs. W. A. Gourley, W. Finlay, G. P. Patton, C. Borga, J. Adams, F. P. King, G. J. Drummond, C. T. G. Lames and R. F. Ballantine.

Per *Haiphong*, from Haiphong, Mr. and Mrs. Dangeon, Mr. and Mrs. E. Sharp, Misses J. Neub and Ethel Cunliff, Messrs. Mathias Hugo, P. C. Deurche, Baband, Knall Laurenz, Dupre, Vicomte de Chalet, P. Gumprecht, Melchers, Wm. Stratton, Chas. Despland, J. G. B. Hemskert, A. Westerburgs, M. O. Kajikawa, Lemiere and Dr. J. K. Bille.

Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Mr. and Mrs. Cattaneo, Capt. Maddock, Lieut. R. Radcliffe, Rev. H. G. Johnson, Messrs. R. J. Young and V. Bennett.

Per *China*, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. O. Key and Mr. James Key, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Wood, Mrs. Ransome, Lieut. T. S. Cox, Rev. E. J. St. George, Messrs. R. L. Kidston, W. C. Dibrell, H. F. Flynn, A. J. Gies, E. J. Martin, H. S. Landor, C. W. Callahan, N. E. Wood, U.S.N., F. A. Asserson, U.S.N., A. J. Andrews, E. Vintschger, G. Vintschger and J. Stacker.

DEPARTED.

Per *Sado Maru*, for London, &c., Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Gschwind, Mrs. Fisher, Capt. H. Hill and Evans, Messrs. H. Gilby, Stewart, K. Nishi, Geo. Phillip, Wood, H. Kennedy, D. S. Duck, L. Fitley, F. A. Morgan, Knawahara, Takaishe, Goshner, R. Brewer, R. Scott, P. Dinsdale, Thawmal, H. Fenwick, B. Hanson, C. Bohn, J. Vitonsky and C. Surm.

Per *Yawata Maru*, for Japan, Mr. and Mrs. Y. Shindo, Mrs. T. Norkawa, Mrs. Rothinan, Miss A. Dewar, Miss K. Anzai, Sir M. and Lady McEacharn, Messrs. D. B. Fullarton, D. Fotheringham, W. Ryland, T. Shibba, G. Matsumoto, Ed. A. Reynders and B. Dorffer.

Per *Yuensang*, for Manila, Major and Mrs. Le Pere, Mrs. A. N. Walton and children, Mrs. C. Pascual, Misses C. Querabin, E. Hopur and Rosario, Rev. F. Rodriguez, Messrs. M. P. Valencia, G. B. Ball, S. Peres, W. C. Rolands, Harry James and Zacarius Agustin.

Per *Tonkin*, for Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. E. Mayer, Revs. Danoy and Asson; for Singapore, Messrs. C. F. Berney, Hamilton King, J. Adler, Johnson, H. Haynes, Johnson, J. Fitzgerald and Inspector Gould; for Colombo, Mr. M. Hynes; for Bombay, Messrs. D. S. Doshi and S. Arjun; for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. S. Bisney and three daughters, Dr. A. L. da Motta Capitaio and Rev. Pic.

Per *Chingtu*, for Australia, Capt. and Mrs. Neilsen, the Misses Neilsen, Mr. and Mrs. Watson, Misses Olsen and Boyd, Dr. E. E. Morrison, Messrs. J. T. Smith, F. Rudd, H. Lodge and Myake.

Per *Rohilla Maru*, for Manila, Capt. and Mrs. J. Howell, Capt. and Mrs. Herberg and child, Mr. and Mrs. Gleason, Mrs. O. McCall, Mrs. S. Ohara and child, Miss S. Sonoda, Messrs. J. W. Osborn, C. A. Peabody, W. D. Kraft, H. Kandler, A. V. Dalrymple, A. Landry and T. Nagata.

Per *Shinano Maru*, for Seattle, &c., Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Shanks, Master and two Misses Shanks, Mr. and Mrs. C. Fosson, Messrs. W. W. Allan, Schulumberger, G. T. Moule, A. Jack, G. J. Williams, B. Fukuchi, S. Ochi and M. Takamiya.

Per *Athenian*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Lieuts. E. P. Aylen and A. T. C. Rundl, Major Gordon-Cumming and Corpl. Romme; for Seattle, Mr. Fred. H. Sargent; for San Francisco, Mrs. A. M. Clay, Messrs. B. Cunningham and Edw. J. Drummond.

Printed and published by ALFRED CUNNINGHAM for the Concerned, at 14, Des Voeux Road Central, City of Victoria, Hongkong. London Office: 131, Fleet Street, E.C.